

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1915, December 3, 1955

AIRMAN IN THE ANTARCTIC

Battle of Britain pilot who will guide explorers in the Far South

On board the Canadian sealer *Theron*, now sailing to the Far South, is a Battle of Britain pilot, Squadron Leader John Lewis, A.F.C. During the past 16 years he has undertaken just about every possible type of flying duty in the R.A.F., and to him, before long, will fall one of the most exacting tasks of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Just before he set sail with the advance party of the expedition, he gave the C.N. Flying Correspondent some idea of the great work ahead.

FROM the cabin of a tiny Auster plane, painted bright orange to show up against the snow, the *Theron* will be guided through the treacherous ice fields of the Weddell Sea to its proposed anchorage in Vahsel Bay. Here the expedition's advance party will seek a break in the lofty ice cliffs, there to unload their equipment prior to establishing a main base.



Squadron Leader John Lewis, A.F.C.

To Squadron Leader John Lewis this will just be part of a day's work. He commands the four-man R.A.F. detachment accompanying the expedition, and with Flight Lieutenant Gordon Haslop, a New Zealander, will provide the explorers with two pairs of far-ranging "eyes."

During my talk with him (writes our Correspondent) John Lewis strode over to a coloured wall map of the Antarctic. In the middle lay a huge patch of "white," a vast uncharted region of eternal snow.

"This is where we enter the picture," he said, pointing to a position off South Georgia. "Here the uncrated Auster on the *Theron's* deck will be lowered to the water for a series of reconnaissance flights to guide the vessel through hundreds of miles of pack ice. Both Austers can, of course, be fitted with floats or skis as needed.

"Normally I shall fly single-handed, but occasionally shall be accompanied by Dr. Fuchs, leader of the expedition, or Captain Harold Maro, of the *Theron*. Once the ship arrives in Vahsel Bay, our job is to find a suitable base site."

John Lewis is no stranger to those icebound regions. In 1949-50, while with the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, he guided the survey vessel *John Biscoe* into Marguerite Bay to rescue half a dozen stranded scientists. I asked for his impressions of the territory.

"It is certainly difficult to discern the nature of the terrain from the air," he explained. "Surprisingly, most of Antarctica consists of high ground, full of plateaus, and mountains festooned with high glaciers. Several ranges reach 15,000 feet and the dome-shaped Polar cap itself is about 10,000 feet above sea level."

FINDING A SITE

"One of our main tasks during the first sortie, due to end in April, is to find a suitable site for an inland depot, midway between Vahsel Bay and the South Pole. This will be used for storing equipment for the actual Antarctic crossing during the period November 1957 to February 1958.

"At the end of 1956 Sir Edmund Hillary and his New Zealand Expedition will set up a base at McMurdo Sound, on the opposite side of the Pole, and eventually we shall reconnoitre a route right across.

"For this we shall use a De Havilland Otter—a large aircraft, which I am due to collect from Canada next year. It will go out with me on the research vessel *Magga Dan* in November."

HE IS PREPARED

We spoke of that great Norwegian-born pilot, Bernt Balchen, who narrowly missed death when he had to nurse his Ford Trimotor over the mountains of the South Pole with barely inches to spare. Bernt had three engines to call on. Squadron Leader Lewis, piloting a much later type of machine, will have only one.

The thought of an emergency landing left him unperturbed. But he assured me that should such an eventuality arise, he, like all good explorers, as well as Scouts, would Be Prepared.



Their village blacksmith

Ernest Andrews has been a blacksmith in the Gloucestershire village of Stapleton for more than half a century; and through all the years the children have loved to look in to watch him at his work.

"Full survival kit will be carried in my plane on every flight. This will consist of a tent, sleeping bag, pair of skis—and, of course, special survival rations containing a high proportion of fat."

Skis? I queried; and with a smile he answered: "No, I'm no expert. If a long way from base I shall wait by the plane until help shows up, but if I come down anywhere near a camp I shall step it out, using the skis as snow shoes."

It will be a far cry from the expeditions of Captain Scott, and Shackleton. But its members will have the same spirit of adventure and the same unflinching determination to win through.

HE BELIEVES IN BOOKING EARLY

The man who held the first airline tickets for a flight across the Atlantic and across the North Pole intends to make it a "hat-trick" of air pioneering when Transatlantic jet planes come into service. He is 79-year-old Mr. William J. Eck of Arlington, Virginia, U.S.A.

Though it may be some time before the jet planes fly across the Atlantic he feels that it is not too soon to be booking his passage.

He made his reservation in the first trans-Atlantic flight eight years before it actually took place.

CANADIANS OF 5000 YEARS AGO!

A party of Canadian archaeologists who spent the summer in the Yukon Territory, 20 miles from the Arctic Circle, recently returned to Ottawa with remarkable discoveries concerning the early inhabitants of Canada. They unearthed no fewer than nine different civilisations.

They uncovered hundreds of implements, made of bone and stone, and a good deal of pottery. Some of the pottery is like specimens found in Siberia believed to be from 3000 to 5000 years old. Some of the tools, however, are thought to be much older than the pottery. Next summer another party will return to the site.

CHAMPION ON ICE

Yvonne Sugden has skated to success

Yvonne Sugden is a girl who will be very much in the picture next week. The British Amateur Ice Skating Championships are due to start on Wednesday at Streatham, in South London, and 16-year-old Yvonne will be there making every effort to retain the title of Figure Skating Champion which she has held for the past two years. Here a CN Correspondent tells the full story of her progress to sporting fame.

THERE would seem to be little connection between skating and Pinocchio. Yet this little Italian puppet was in a way responsible for Yvonne de Montfort Boyer Sugden taking her first steps on ice.

It all happened nine years ago, when little Yvonne went with her parents to see the film of Pinocchio. At the cinema, however, they found great queues outside, and this meant a long wait in the cold. But Yvonne was so disappointed that as a consolation her father suggested she might like to go to the nearby ice rink to watch the skaters.

At the time this did not seem such an exciting prospect as the



Yvonne Sugden

cinema, but as it happened, Yvonne was enthralled with the sport; and the very next day she had her first lesson—"staggering, falling, and clinging to the side for dear life," as she recalls now.

Soon afterwards Yvonne became a pupil of Jacques Gerschwiler, the world-famous Swiss coach who lives in this country and has coached such champions as Cecilia Colledge, Jeannette Altwegg, and Belita.

Yvonne had been skating for little more than two years when Mr. Gerschwiler entered her in a novices competition at the Wembley Ice Rink. The competition was held in the interval of an ice-hockey match, and thus it was that 10,000 people were present to see her win her first trophy.

This success and the steady progress she was making led Mr. Gerschwiler to believe that here might be another champion in the making. But champions are not made overnight. Lots of coaching, and practice, practice, practice are

essential if a young skater is to reach the top. She would have to train every morning five days a week most of the year.

That was all very well, but Yvonne was at school during the day, and then there was homework to be done. A family conference, however, found a way out of the difficulties. She should attend the ice rink in the mornings and have a private tutor in the afternoons and evenings.

"It will be hard work," promised Mr. Gerschwiler.

STRENUOUS PROGRAMME

Her new programme meant jumping out of bed at 6.30, followed by limbering-up exercises, a hurried breakfast, and a journey to Streatham to be on the ice at 8.30. Then two hours of figure skating, a short rest, an hour or more of free skating, lunch, and another hour's figure skating.

Tired? A little, but there are still several hours' schooling ahead and Midas, her dachshund, to be exercised.

This schedule must be maintained from September to early December, and again from the end of February to the end of June. In July and August Yvonne relaxes; no school, no skating, but as much swimming and canoeing as possible.

Yvonne has already visited seven countries in the course of her skating and this winter she will be off again—to Switzerland and France, to Italy for the Olympic Winter Games, and to Germany for the World Championships.

MOST EXCITING EXPERIENCE

She still looks back on her first appearance in the World Championships in Milan as her most exciting experience. "And I didn't come last, either." In fact, she came 19th out of 22, no small achievement for an eleven-year-old.

From then on her progress was steady and sure. From 19th she advanced to eighth and then sixth. Her efforts in the European Championships culminating in a second place last year. In the British Championship she has made her way from sixth in 1950 to victory in the past two years. And a few weeks ago she won the Richmond International Trophy for the third time.

One spectator who will have a special place next Wednesday is her dog. Incidentally, Midas has more than a name in common with the Phrygian king whose touch turned everything to gold. He was given to Yvonne as a reward for winning her gold medal at the age of 12 so, as she points out, "he really turned my silver medal into a gold one, didn't he?"

HOPE DEFERRED AT GENEVA

The three-week conference of the four Foreign Ministers—of Britain, the United States, France, and Russia—ended last month in agreement to disagree. The CN Diplomatic Correspondent here examines the reasons.

ONCE again the comparative failure of the Geneva talks brings us up against the problem of whether the open conference is better than private diplomacy.

When the heads of the four Governments met in Geneva last July the atmosphere was cordial.

Hopes of a world peace settlement were raised. But in fairness it must be mentioned that after that conference Sir Anthony Eden said: "No one expects that it will be easy to settle every detail of these complicated issues."

THE GERMAN PROBLEM

So far as it went that July conference was a success. But the recent Foreign Minister's conference was less successful. For the moment we have come back to "diplomatic channels."

The major task was to unite Germany, divided between Western democratic and Eastern Communist rule, and to stabilise the security of Europe.

The principal problem has been the insistence of the Western Powers (Britain, France, and the U.S.) on free democratic elections before Germany is unified. It is believed that if the Eastern Germans under Communist state control were given a free choice they would declare for democracy.

The Russians perceive this danger to their grip on Eastern Germany. They would prefer a grand council to be recruited from the present two Parliaments of West and East Germany.

Such an arrangement would no doubt give the Communists a strong hold on Western Germany, now linked with the West through N.A.T.O. In addition, the Russians want all military groupings dissolved before Germany is unified.

REMOVING RUSSIAN FEAR

But the Western Powers, believing that if all Germans were allowed a free unfettered vote on their own future a united Germany would come into the Western family, have offered a new European security pact.

This is designed to remove not only Russia's fear of a Germany which might again one day invade her territory, but also her equal mistrust of the West's intentions.

On the other two subjects discussed at Geneva—disarmament and east-west contacts—no agreement was reached. If there is unwillingness to come into a security pact there is bound to be unwillingness to disarm.

But are things as unhelpful as appears on the surface? Before we decide, it would perhaps be wiser to await the Spring and, with it, the visit to London of Russia's two leading statesmen, Marshal Bulganin and Mr. Krushchev.

News from Everywhere

A fragment of a fossilised tree discovered in a quarry near Huddersfield is estimated to be 250 million years old.

The world's biggest tanker, the 47,750-ton S.T. Spyros Niarchos, is to be launched at Barrow-in-Furness on Friday.

The Queen has given her consent for a new Australian town 17 miles north of Adelaide to be named Elizabeth.

British batteries are to be made under licence at a factory now being built in Turkey.

School fashion



One of the favourite lessons at the Hassenbrook School at Stanfield-Hope, Essex, is dressmaking. Here Carol Barker, who has made a skirt, has the hem adjusted by her friend Jean Rousell.

LOTS OF PEOPLE

Recent estimates give the world's population as 2600 million and growing at the rate of 35 million a year.

Trinity College, Oxford, is in need of restoration, and an appeal for £100,000 has been launched.

One out of every three visitors to Britain last year came by air.

WEDDING AT SEA

A Finnish couple have been married in an open fishing boat eight miles off Bridlington, Yorkshire, because the newly-appointed Finnish pastor in London had not received authority to marry his countrymen in England.

Worsborough, Yorkshire, has just discovered that for over 60 years it has been mis-spelling its name. It should be Worsbrough, so the council seal and official notepaper are being altered.

Scarborough is to spend about £250 on a garden for blind people. It will have special strong-scented flowers.

A CATCH IN IT?

A Scottish fishing boat has begun using a bright pink herring drift net. It is being tried at the suggestion of Japanese experts, who believe that pink is invisible to fish.

Four boys' clubs in South-West London will be having a visit from the Duke of Edinburgh soon.

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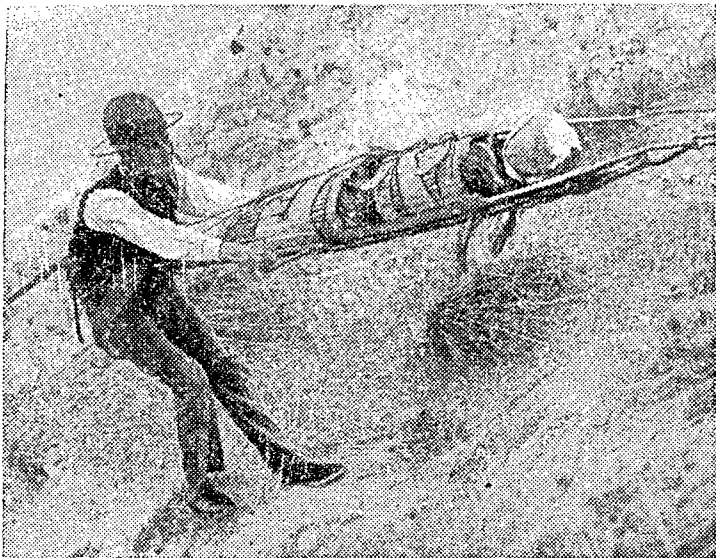
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For Children's Newspaper, December 3, 1955



"Rescue" on Beachy Head

Wearing a strange crash helmet against the risk of falling rock, Sergeant Burcham of the Eastbourne police brings a dummy casualty up the last stretch of Beachy Head. He was taking part in cliff-rescue training exercises.

GROWING BAMBOO IN SCOTLAND

Scotland may soon be growing bamboo on a big scale. A new project is being sponsored by the British Rayon Research Association, because bamboo yields a high content of cellulose which is used in the manufacture of rayon.

Some 50,000 acres are needed for economical growing of bamboo and the only great stretch of land not already in use is peat bogland—and experts felt that this was unsuitable for bamboo. However, a small experimental crop planted on the peninsula of the Rhinns of Galloway is thriving so well that a larger planting is soon to take place in another peat area near Barrhill, Ayrshire.

NAIL-BREAKER

"World Champion Nail and Bar Breaker" is the title claimed by Mr. Harry Cope, deputy night foreman at Denby Colliery, Derbyshire. He gained the title in a contest at Nottingham against Mr. Ron Allkin of Aston, Birmingham. Mr. Cope twisted and snapped a six-inch nail in seven seconds. Mr. Allkin took 30 seconds. Then Mr. Cope snapped five more in 72 seconds.

But Mr. Allkin is not finished. He has now challenged Mr. Cope to break a six-inch nail while hanging by his toes from a rope, and another while balancing on one foot on a wire.

FLIPPERS FOR TEA

Newfoundland Delight is one of the dishes which may be served to our Antarctic explorers arriving during the later stages of their voyage aboard the Theron. A speciality of the Chief Steward, Gunnar Tollefson, it consists of seal flippers soaked in vinegar and slowly roasted!

A GOOD 300 MILES

Every week Gordon Robertson and his two sisters walk to Sunday School from their home at Menmuir, Angus—three miles there and three miles back again. But they have all received prizes for regular attendance.

RETURN OF THE STOWAWAY

A dog which ran away to sea several months ago has now returned home. Rusty is his name, and Police Constable Ernest Thompson of Grimsby is his master.

Rusty has been given a great welcome back, among those who greeted him being 40 boys and girls of the Grimsby Junior Blue Cross League. They raised £6 for his keep in quarantine and adopted him as their mascot before they had ever seen him.

Last February Rusty jumped the garden gate of his home and went aboard a trawler in the docks. The ship sailed for Germany that night, and a month later Rusty was found wandering along the side of the Kiel Canal by a kindly German sea captain who wrote to the address on the dog's identity disc.

The dog was sent back to this country in May but in accordance with regulations has had to spend six months in quarantine.

Light Blues prepare



From the scores of "possibles," two trial crews have now been chosen for the 1956 Cambridge Boat Race crew. The president of the Cambridge University Boat Club, K. A. Masser, is here seen on the towpath while coaching one of the crews.

10,000TH CROSSING

When a DC6 aircraft landed at Auckland recently it completed the 10,000th crossing of the Tasman Sea for Tasman Empire Airways.

The aircraft did the 1342-mile trip in five hours, compared with the 14 hours 25 minutes taken on the first crossing in 1928, achieved by Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm in their famous monoplane, Southern Cross.

Times have changed. On this last trip of Tasman Empire Airways, three Australian mannequins staged a fashion parade.

The aircraft was commanded by Captain Christopher Griffiths, T.E.A.'s flight captain, who has made the crossing more than 1000 times.

TOO MANY WILLOWS

A helicopter is to spray poison over ten miles of willow trees which block streams and cause flooding of farmland in Waipa County, New Zealand.

Some of New Zealand's first willow trees are said to have been grown from slips taken from a tree planted on Napoleon's grave on St. Helena. Since then willow trees have found their way to almost every river bank in New Zealand.

Very old owl



Among the treasures at the Exhibition of Portuguese Art, now being held at the Royal Academy, London, is this antique silver owl. He is about eight inches high and was made in the seventeenth century as some kind of jar or container, for his head comes off. The exhibition comprises over 550 examples of paintings, sculpture, pottery, furniture and furnishings besides gold and silver work.

BEYOND THE REACH OF THE LAW

A pigeon paid a visit to London's Law Courts the other day. During a hearing in the High Court it entered the public gallery through a window and disturbed a witness by cooing. When an usher went to remove it, the bird flew across the court to a windowsill. It stayed and listened to the proceedings for about an hour and then flew out again.

GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD

Smiles, friendly greetings, and kindly acts have been to the fore recently in the village of Trowell near Nottingham; they have been the order, not of a day, but of 30 days, for the rector, the Rev. Kenneth Jones, has been holding a "Good Neighbours" month.



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IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

Byrd flies over South Pole

NOVEMBER 29, 1929. LITTLE AMERICA, ANT-ARCTICA—In the early hours of this morning the American explorer, Commander Richard Evelyn Byrd, flew over the South Pole in a three-engined aircraft.

Byrd, the first man ever to fly over the earth's southernmost point, took a series of photographs of these great uncharted wastes.

It was shortly after 3 p.m. yesterday that he took off in the plane, Floyd Bennet, accompanied by a crew of three, Bernt Balchen, Captain A. C. McKinley, and Harold June.

Byrd's Antarctic expedition left America in September last year. When it reached Antarctica in December, Commander Byrd set up a base camp, which he named Little America, on the Bay of Whales in the Ross Sea. The Commander has spent this year on exploration of this area.

Commander Byrd has now flown over both Poles. In 1926 he flew over the North Pole.

Antarctica is surrounded by seas exposed to the fiercest winds in the world. The average height of the continent is about 6000 feet, almost twice as high as that of Asia.

St. Paul's Cathedral opened

DECEMBER 2, 1697. CITY OF LONDON—The opening of the new St. Paul's Cathedral today was attended by a large concourse of people.

This is also the thanksgiving day for the Peace of Ryswick, which has placed his Majesty King William III permanently on the throne, but his Majesty did not attend today's ceremony, as it was feared that Jacobites were planning an attempt against his life.

The new cathedral is the work of the eminent 65-year-old architect. Sir Christopher Wren, who has devotedly watched each stage of its building through 22 years.

It is 35 years ago, since he declared the former old St. Paul's

Church to be in a dangerous state. This building was soon afterwards destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666, the scaffolding around it adding to the blaze.

Sir Christopher therefore took the opportunity of going ahead with building a new cathedral, laying the first stone on June 21, 1675. The greater part of the money for the project was obtained from a special tax on coal, but the architect had great difficulty in getting £4 a week for himself.

(After the opening much building had still to be done. In fact, the cathedral was not completed for another 19 years, when Wren was dismissed from his office of Surveyor-General.)

"Treasure Island" author dies

DECEMBER 3, 1894. SAMOA—At his island home here this afternoon the 44-year-old Scottish novelist, Robert Louis Stevenson, collapsed while talking to his wife. Two hours later he was dead.

The distinguished writer first saw this lovely spot when he passed it on a voyage to Australia—on one of the many trips he had to make by reason of ill health—and after a sojourn in Australia came back here to live. He bought a property of about 400 acres and called it Vailima—five rivers. He became much beloved by the natives, who called him Tusitala—teller of tales.

From early youth Stevenson found delight in writing and he

was only 15 when he published a pamphlet on The Pentland Rising of 1666. He continued writing despite frequent illness and in 1878 wrote his first book, An Inland Voyage.

Four years later he wrote his most famous adventure book Treasure Island, and its success made him decide that writing should be his profession. His later popular novels include Kidnapped, The Master of Ballantrae, and The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

(Sixty natives toiled to cut the path along which they carried Stevenson to his chosen burial ground, on the peak of forest-clad Mount Vaea near Vailima.)

RADIO AND TV

CHILDREN'S TELEVISION TO HAVE EUROPEAN NEWS SERVICE

YOUNG viewers all over Western Europe owe a debt to Miss Freda Lingstrom, Chief of BBC Children's TV, for her brilliant idea of an international children's television news service.



Freda Lingstrom

The notion appealed at once to all countries in the Eurovision network, with the result that on January 3 we shall see the first regular newflash programme contributed by nine nations. They are France, Italy, Luxemburg,

Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, and Britain.

On the first day of every month each country will send a filmed item of not less than three minutes to all the other countries. There will be sound effects but no spoken commentary. A written commentary sent with each film will be translated in each receiving country.

On Miss Lingstrom's suggestion, the flashes will be based on real life, not just the magazine type of information. For instance, an act of heroism by a child, though it might have happened three weeks previously, will be considered more newsworthy than, say, a visit to a zoo.

Each country is being encouraged to send items about boys and girls at school, and how they spend their holidays. I hear there may also be argumentative pieces about raising or lowering the school leaving age, and whether exams should be compulsory.

The new series certainly points the way to a better understanding of other people in other lands.

In a Co-ed school

Boys and girls at the Frensham Heights co-educational school in Surrey have been filmed in class to provide atmosphere for a BBC Children's TV play next Tuesday.

It is called The Benedict Plan, and is about a brother and sister who have been brought up separately and only meet when they are sent to the same school. Edward and Elizabeth, played by Michael Caridia and Lynette Mills, run into all sorts of problems trying to settle down in the school.

I gather that viewers watching their progress will gain an interesting insight into the methods at the latest type of boy-and-girl school.

Peter Ling suggested the tale and it has been written by Sheila Ward.

SINGERS AT THE DOOR

An old tradition, called Vessel-Cup singing, has been revived once again in the Whitby district and will carry on into the New Year.

Dating back centuries, it is a Christmas custom whereby singers go from door to door carrying tiny boxes containing effigies of the Infant Jesus and His Mother and sometimes of the Three Wise Men. The whole box is decorated with tinsel and holly and sometimes contains an orange or apple and a piece of coal to represent the products of the earth. The tradition is slowly dying out but a few singers—all women—still remain.

At each house they sing the first verse of God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen, and their reward is usually a silver coin, for superstitious folk of the older generation think it unlucky to send them away empty-handed.

Canadian Rugby

PETER WEST will have the interesting job on Saturday of explaining Canadian Rugby to British viewers. The BBC is showing a telerecording of the last 25 minutes of Canada's biggest football match of the year—the Grey Cup for the Canadian Rugby Union Championship. The teams consist of 12 men.

Visitors from space

Try not to miss The Purple Comet, the new space fiction serial starting in BBC Children's Hour this Wednesday.

Producer David Davis describes this as space fiction with a difference. This time, instead of an excursion into space, we have events happening on Earth to space visitors who have come to us.

It is a story in retrospect about mysteries that can only now be disclosed at a safe distance of years. The author is Peter Hayes, who wrote the Children's Hour play The Shadow of the Eagle, about Napoleon and the Hundred Days.

David Spenser and Donald Prescott are the boy actors who meet with most of the exciting adventures.

The Queen's Christmas broadcast

THE Queen will give her Christmas Day broadcast as usual, but will not be televised. The BBC says her Majesty considered the idea but decided to confine her message to sound radio, which is to the Commonwealth as a whole.

It is part of the idea of a Commonwealth family that listeners at the ends of the earth should feel they are sharing the broadcast in exactly the same way as those in the Home Country.

Meet the Armstrongs



SINCE Mabel Constanduros started the Buggineses nearly 30 years ago the number of radio and television families has grown steadily. Now we are to meet yet another—the Armstrongs—to be seen early in the New Year in ATV Commercial Television.

One Family, which is being written by the well-known playwright R. F. Delderfield, will be the first serial with a Commonwealth background. Although the main family live in Britain, like the Groves, the Armstrongs have relations in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, and their doings will be chronicled, too.

Grandfather, an old soldier with the V.C., is played by Gordon Harker. Father and Mother are Patrick Holt and Joyce Heron, with Antony Doonan and Roma Denville as Ronnie and Barbara, their elder son and daughter. Mary and Maxie, the younger ones, are played by Hilda Berry and David Cotte.

Installments each lasting 15 minutes are now being filmed at Barnes Studios. At Television House I was told the Armstrongs will certainly be seen from the new Birmingham commercial station in February, but will also make their appearance in London.

ERNEST THOMSON

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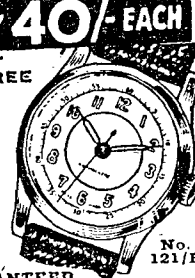


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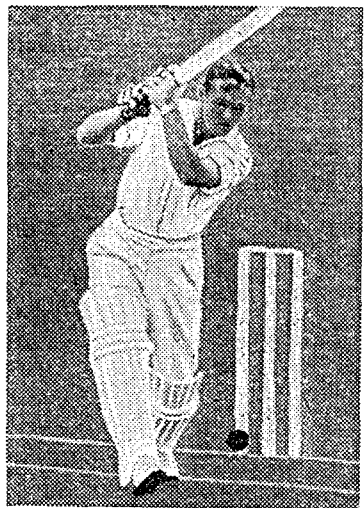
FAMOUS FOR WATCHES

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OFF TO PAKISTAN



Donald Carr



Peter Richardson

CRICKET-LOVERS in this country will follow with lively interest the progress of the M.C.C. team which is due to sail on Saturday for a three-month tour of Pakistan.

The purpose of the tour is to introduce promising young players to representative cricket abroad, as an invaluable aid to their development. Nine of the 15 players in the party are under 25; but Youth has been blended with Experience, and a highly successful tour in every way is anticipated.

Leading the side is the Derbyshire captain, Donald Carr, who was vice-captain of the party that toured India and Pakistan in 1951-52. Sound batsman and steady left-arm bowler, he is also one of the finest close-wicket fielders in the country.

The vice-captain will probably be Billy Sutcliffe, who has already been chosen to lead Yorkshire next season. Son of one of the greatest opening batsmen of all time, Billy Sutcliffe was a member of the Commonwealth team that toured India in 1950-51.

Among the senior players are Alan Watkins of Glamorgan, Maurice Tompkin of Leicestershire, and Somerset's wicket-keeper, Harold Stephenson. Watkins, one of England's best all-rounders, has been on several tours, and his experience should prove invaluable. Tompkin, senior member of the party at

36, has never represented England abroad but he is recognised as a fine hard-wicket batsman. Harold Stephenson is considered by many to be a wicket-keeper second only to Godfrey Evans.

The other wicket-keeper in the touring side, Roy Swetman, does not command a regular place in his county team; in fact, he has played in only nine first-class matches for Surrey. But few will deny that this 21-year-old stumper-batsman is a fine player, destined to make a name for himself.

LATE CHOICE

The other 21-year-old player is slow left-arm bowler Peter Sainsbury, who took no little part in Hampshire's successes last season. But the late decision to include Tony Lock of Surrey in the touring team will undoubtedly reduce young Peter's opportunities of playing.

The choice of Fred Titmus completed a most successful season for him. He played for England against South Africa,

and was also the first Middlesex player since 1929 to score 1000 runs and take 100 wickets. Incidentally, his total of 191 wickets was a record for a Middlesex player; and Fred is only 22.

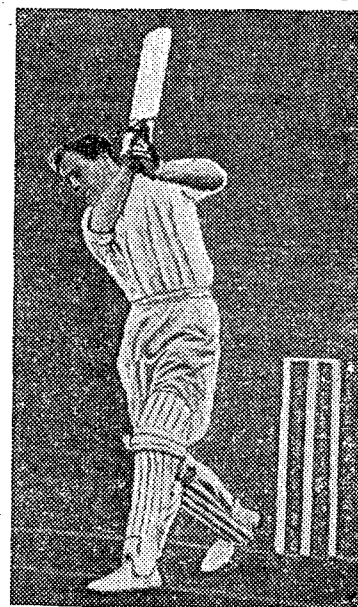
His Middlesex colleague, Alan Moss, can expect plenty of hard work, for he is one of the only two fast bowlers in the side. The other is Michael Cowan, who has shown great promise for Yorkshire.

Although only 24, Brian Close is almost a veteran. He first played for England at the age of 18, and toured Australia in 1950-51. He seems to have found his true rôle as an attacking opening batsman.

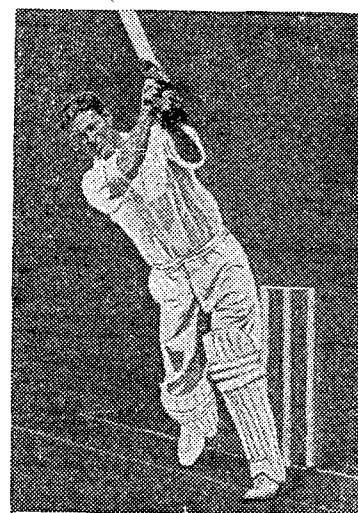
Another candidate for the position of opening batsman is Peter Richardson, who only recently completed his National Service. This Worcestershire player will be all out to stake a claim in the England side.

The other two batsmen in the side are Jim Parks of Sussex, and Ken Barrington of Surrey. On the hard, true wickets they can expect to meet both these young players should get a great number of runs.

Playing in their own country, Pakistan will provide stern opposition for "Young England," and the news of their encounters in that land of sunshine will help to brighten the winter days in this country.



Billy Sutcliffe



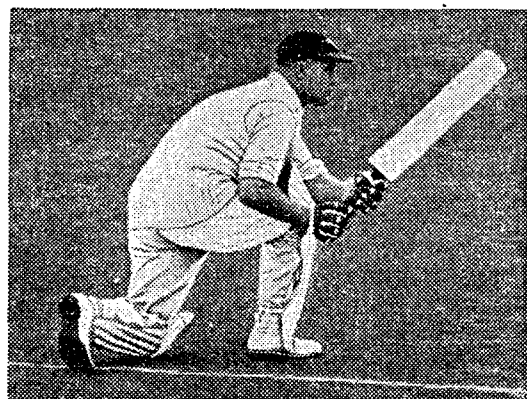
Maurice Tompkin



Michael Cowan



Peter Sainsbury



Alan Watkins



Roy Swetman



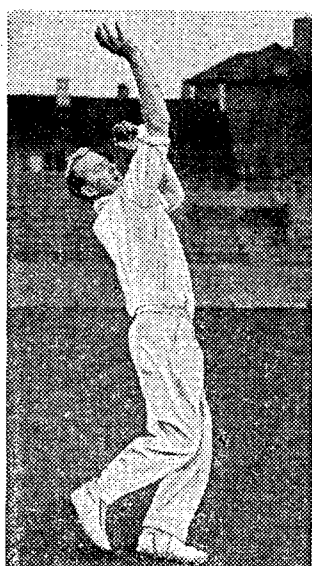
Harold Stephenson



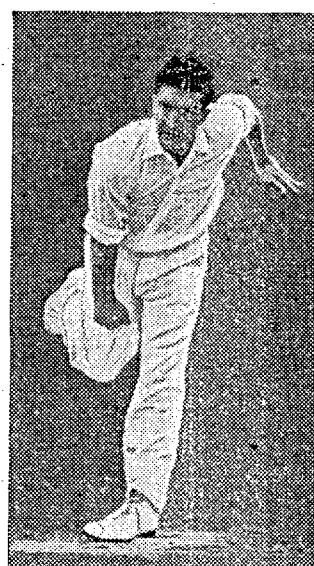
Jim Parks



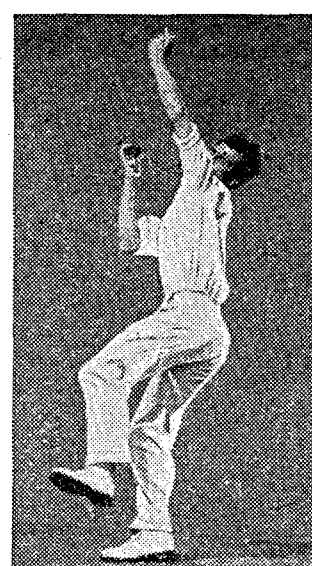
Ken Barrington



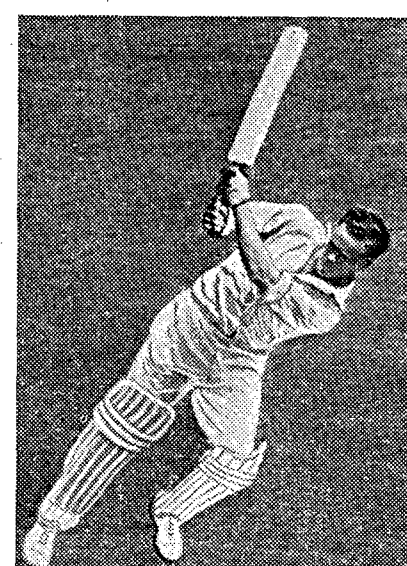
Tony Lock



Fred Titmus



Alan Moss



Brian Close

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars, London, E.C.4
DECEMBER 3 1955

BLUEBIRD'S TRIUMPH

BRITAIN has every reason to be proud of Donald Campbell; and not the least is that his world water speed record of 216.2 m.p.h. was achieved after an astonishing series of setbacks that would have daunted a man less determined.

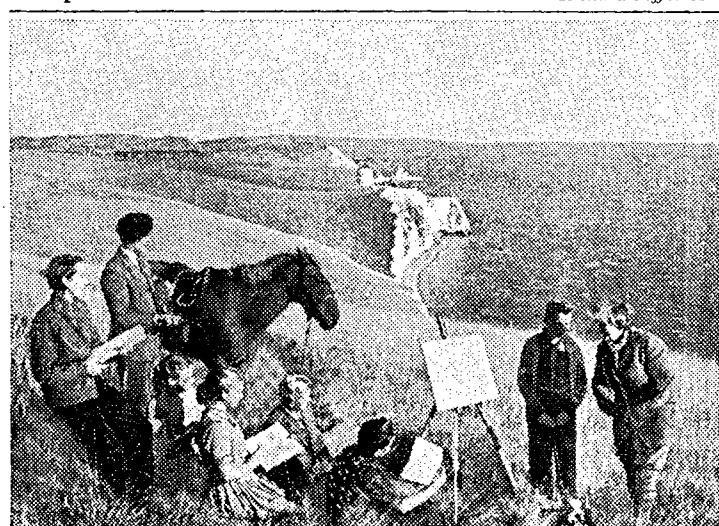
In October his jet-propelled Bluebird sank in Lake Mead, and after she had been recovered and repaired, bad weather caused repeated postponements of his attempt.

When at last everything seemed favourable, and he was ready to start, it was found that nearly a mile of wire that connected shore timing devices had been stolen. New wire had to be obtained, and this led to hours of dangerous delay during which Donald Campbell was on tenterhooks; for at any time a wind was likely to spring up and create conditions making it impossible to drive Bluebird at speed.

But the attempt still had to be made that day. There could be no further postponement, because the official timekeepers, weary of the long wait, declared that they could not remain at the lakeside until the following day.

So there and then, and in spite of worsening conditions, the world's fastest man on water made the rocket-like dash in which the slightest mishap might have cost him his life.

As Anthony Trollope wrote: "It's dogged as does it." Three cheers for Donald Campbell!



OUR HOMELAND

An art class at work on the rolling Dorset cliffs near Lulworth.

The Editor's Table

ENGLISH WITHOUT TEARS

ALL students of languages make amusing mistakes, and several outstanding examples were provided in this year's English examination run by the British Chamber of Commerce in France.

In a reference to the duty of providing for old folk, one French student wrote: "The active population must work for eating them." Harder work "by every blasted country," was the solution offered in another essay dealing with the problems of repairing war damage.

A classic example of the boot on the other foot occurs in French Without Tears. In this famous comedy an English student translates: "She had ideas above her station", as, "Elle avait des idées au-dessus sa gare."

Think on These Things

ANDREW, one of John's followers, came to know Jesus through that prophet. But Andrew was not content to keep his knowledge to himself. He had a brother, Simon Peter, and he told him the wonderful news of the Messiah.

Andrew had the spirit of a missionary. He brought his brother to Jesus. Similarly, every Christian should be a missionary. For there is scope for missionary work wherever you are and just where you are now. You can bring someone else to church or Sunday-school or Bible class, or whatever it may be.

Jesus loves us all alike. He calls us to be His disciples, so that we may win others for Him. It is a good thing to ask ourselves from time to time: "When did I last win someone for Jesus?" O. R. C.

NATURE'S MESSAGE

EVERY blade of grass, each leaf, each separate floret and petal, is an inscription speaking of Hope. Consider the grasses and the oaks, the swallows, the sweet blue butterfly—they are one and all a sign and token showing before our eyes earth made into life.

Richard Jefferies

Look out!

FROM the Post Office Magazine comes this story of a head postmaster who was testing the efficiency of his counter staff. Approaching a clerk from the public side, he asked: "How can I obtain a weather forecast?"

A hiker beside him immediately gave him this advice: "Why not stick your head out of the door—it's raining cats and dogs."

All the badges



Three members of the Cub pack at Cuddington, Surrey, have won all possible badges—13 of them. They are Bernard Verrall (in front), John Lucas, and Graham Clark.

Cradle of the Deep

IT would seem that Britain makes the best pillows. Not long ago the Cunard Steamship Company received a request from a lady in New York whose uncle travelled to Europe in 1950 in the Queen Elizabeth. He thought the pillows in his cabin were the most comfortable he had ever known and now, greatly troubled with sleeplessness, he had asked his niece to write to the company and find out where they had been made.

On her next voyage the Q.E. had among her cargo two spare pillows of the type required, and these were forwarded free of charge as a gesture of international goodwill.

Out and About

ALL but the evergreen trees are now quite stripped of their last leaves.

When mist has added to the winter stillness of a wood we realise the picture, and the feeling behind it, in the beautiful single line:

Bare ruined choirs in which the sweet birds sang.

But, in fact, when the weather is not worrying them, several of our birds will suddenly delight us with a winter song, among them the robin, the song thrush, and the mistle thrush.

C. D. D.

THEY SAY . . .

OUR standard of living will never get any better—indeed, it might not even remain where it is—unless we all realise that our work is for each other as well as for ourselves.

The Duke of Edinburgh

COMPETITION by industry for the best boys and girls leaving school is hot and is getting hotter.

Sir David Eccles,
Minister of Education

HOWEVER much a teacher impresses on a child that it is bad manners to leave litter, that child is unlikely to take much notice when it sees that its father always throws down his empty cigarette packets, and its mother leaves sweet papers and picnic rubbish on the grass.

Report of the Leeds branch of the
Council for the Preservation of
Rural England

BY all the rules it should be possible to equal and to exceed my top speed at Lake Mead without running into trouble. That it can be exceeded I am certain.

Donald Campbell, in
The Daily Telegraph

QUIZ CORNER

1. Charles Dickens sometimes used an odd pen-name. What was it?
2. What is the "Vinegar Bible," and why is it so called?
3. Can you name five, or more, States of the U.S.A. beginning with the letter "M"?
4. When was the Victoria Cross instituted?
5. Which is the only poisonous snake in this country?
6. What rare gas was discovered in the sun before it was found on earth?

Answer on page 16

Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper,
December 5, 1925.

AT the General Election just held in Australia a law came into force for the first time, compelling every citizen to use his vote or pay a fine of £2.

The law has been a great success, so far as getting the people to the poll is concerned, which is not surprising, considering the elaborate care the Government took to make sure that the electors knew the new law. The CN has received a letter posted in Sydney more than a month before the election on which this reminder is stamped with the postmark:

Commonwealth Elections.
Voting By Electors Is Compulsory.

JUST AN IDEA

As Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote: Knowledge and timber should not be much used till they are seasoned.

Next Week's Birthdays

December 4

Edith Cavell (1865-1915). Nurse. During the First World War she turned her training school for nurses at Brussels into a Red Cross hospital. She was arrested by the Germans for helping Allied prisoners to escape and on October 12, 1915, she was shot. Her last words are said to have been: "I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."



December 5

Walt Disney (1901). Creator of Mickey Mouse, the Silly Symphonies, Fantasia, Snow White and a host of other cartoon films which have delighted the public for nearly 30 years.

December 6

George Monk, first Duke of Albemarle (1608-1670). Soldier, who was largely responsible for the restoration of Charles II. He could have made himself dictator after the breakdown of the Cromwell régime but he declared for a free parliament which decided to bring back the king.

December 7

Mary Queen of Scots (1542-1587). Beautiful and unhappy in her life, courageous and dignified in meeting death on the scaffold, her memory is enshrined in so many chivalrous legends that it is difficult to arrive at the facts. She is still almost as much a subject of controversy today as she was during her troubled lifetime.

December 8

Jean Sibelius (1865). One of the greatest of all contemporary composers whose music has become a patriotic symbol in his native country, Finland. Certainly its landscape of lakes and vast forests has greatly influenced his work.

December 9

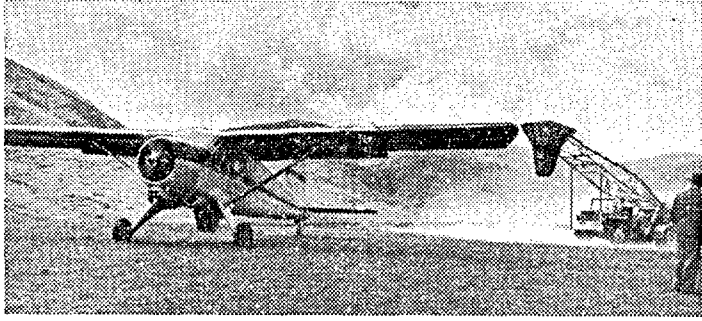
Richard Austen Butler (1902) Chancellor of the Exchequer since 1951. As Minister of Education between 1941 and 1945 he inaugurated many of the recent reforms in the educational system of this country.



December 10

Lord Alexander of Tunis (1891). Soldier, one of the outstanding generals of the last war. He was Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East and in charge of the hard fighting in Tunisia, from which he took his title. After the war he was Governor-General of Canada for six years.

FLYING MEN HELP THE FARMER



An aircraft about to take off after being loaded with fertiliser

In many parts of the world the aeroplane has become as much an "agricultural implement" as the tractor, especially for spraying crops with insecticides. This is particularly true in the hill country of New Zealand, where roads are few, and adventurous youth is finding plenty of thrills in the new aerial farming developed there since the war.

Today some 230 aircraft are employed, and as two pilots usually work with each, flying turn about in two-hour shifts, there is quite a demand for qualified men.

These, at first, were mostly war veterans. But now many New Zealand youngsters, some of whom own their own planes, are taking up this new profession. Aero clubs and the commercial companies provide training courses for a job which carries a substantial yearly salary, plus a bonus for each hour of flying time.

SKILL AND DARING

Success at this work calls for skill and daring. The flying is done at low levels, over rugged hill country where cross-winds and turbulence are frequently encountered. Farm landing-fields are not of the smoothest, most of them being grass strips some 500 to 600 yards long, and many have trees, buildings, and fences uncomfortably close. For all that, accidents are few.

Most cargoes carried are phosphate manures, which New Zealand farmers must spread on their pastures year after year. On flat land this top-dressing is

managed quite easily. But most of New Zealand is either hilly or mountainous, so lugging the heavy fertiliser by sledge or packhorse was always a heart-breaking business, and one which held up an increase in production.

The aeroplane, however, has changed all that. Instead of the country's economy depending very largely on some seven million acres of ploughable land, great tracts of hill country are now being top-dressed, grassed, and sub-divided. In the past year alone some three million acres of hill pastures received 280,000 tons of fertiliser from the air.

SMALL PLANES POPULAR

The result is that New Zealand's sheep flocks are increasing at the rate of two million animals a year.

In the past most planes used for commercial farmwork in New Zealand were Tiger Moths, but these are gradually being replaced by other makes such as the American Cessna and the De Havilland Beaver. Trials have also been made with Bristol Freighters and other large craft. But owing to their greater manoeuvrability, and the need to treat some fields while leaving nearby ones untouched, the smaller planes have proved more popular.

To speed up loading, and keep the aircraft moving, New Zealanders have designed a boom mechanism which meets the plane as it rolls to a stop, and shoots a ton of fertiliser into the aircraft's hopper in one automatic operation. This takes a matter of seconds. Then the aircraft takes off and discharges its fresh load within a few minutes.

Lucky young tourists

A party of 12 young men and women have set out on a wonderful tour of the Gold Coast and Nigeria. It is being paid for out of the South African people's 1946 gift to Britain, part of which was set aside to encourage youth travel.

In the Gold Coast they will tour for some 1500 miles, calling on chiefs, and seeing cocoa plantations, a gold mine, and forest reserves. They will also visit schools and university colleges to see what education has done for this land which formerly lay under the shadow of ju-ju magic and the slave-trader.

MAIN PURPOSE

The main purpose of their tour, however, is to bring them into touch with the people of the countries visited, revealing how they live, work, and play.

In Nigeria, where their travels will cover nearly 3000 miles, they will visit the walled cities of Zaria and Kano, Katsina, and Kaduna. After spending Christmas in the beautiful hill station of Jos, they are to return to London on January 11.

They were chosen with the help of youth organisations as being young people worthy to represent Britain overseas and likely to help others to a better understanding of these African territories.

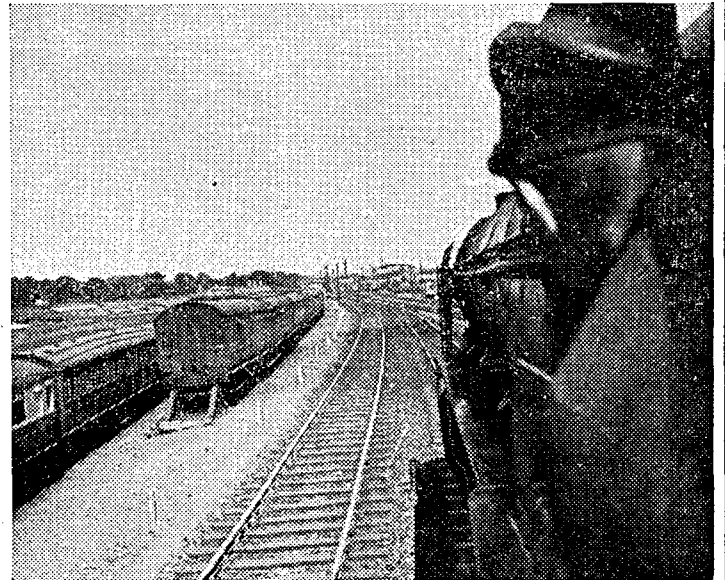
WEALTH FROM THE DEAD SEA

The Dead Sea is a very live topic at the moment. For the Jordan Government is building a great new factory to secure the chemical wealth in its waters. In this inland sea no fish can live but there is estimated to be over 40,000 million tons of valuable chemicals, mainly magnesium, calcium, sodium chlorides, and bromine.

The new factory is being built near Jericho on the site of one erected during the British Mandate over Palestine but destroyed during Arab-Israeli fighting in 1948. The new project will cost £4,000,000.

The Dead Sea is about 46 miles long, between seven and nine miles wide, and has a mean depth of 1080 feet. It is 1300 feet below the Mediterranean.

ON THE FOOTPLATE



Nearly every boy wants to drive an express, but few realise the strain of taking 700 tons of train and several hundred passengers for long distances. Above, we see Driver W. Capp leaning out of his cab as he brings his express into Peterborough, having left King's Cross an hour and a half previously. After a short rest there he will probably take another train back to London. Below, the fireman is seen keeping watch while the driver brings the train to an emergency stop because of a faulty signal.



SCHOOLBOY REFEREE

A 15-year-old schoolboy, Michael Heath, has become England's youngest Soccer referee.

Allowed to take the referee's examination because the officials did not know his age, Michael was awarded 90 out of 100 marks by the Birmingham County Football Association examiners. Normally applicants are not examined until they are 16 but as Michael qualified before his correct age was discovered, his enrolment was allowed to stand.

GARDEN MAP FOR GEOLOGISTS

A geological garden is to be established at Kirkstall Abbey, Leeds, next year. It is thought that it will be the first of its kind in the country.

A map of England and Wales, 50 yards by 30 yards, is to be dug out in the turf, and examples of the various types of rock and other deposits will be shown and clearly labelled in their correct localities.

STAMP ALBUM

OLD FOR THE NEW



ST. VINCENT HAS FOLLOWED NEW ZEALAND'S LEAD AND BORROWED THE DESIGN OF ITS FIRST ISSUE AS A BASIS FOR THE NEW QUEEN ELIZABETH STAMPS.



SYMBOL OF SAN MARINO

MOUNT TITANO, WITH THREE PEAKS CROWNED BY THREE CASTLES, IS AN OUTSTANDING FEATURE OF SAN MARINO. IT APPEARS ON A NUMBER OF STAMPS AND ALSO IN THE COAT-OF-ARMS. THE ITALIAN WORD PENNA (PEAK) ALSO MEANS PLUME, SO THE DESIGNS OFTEN SHOW THE CASTLES SURMOUNTED BY THREE FEATHERS. IN THE STAMP ABOVE THE FEATHERS ARE REPLACED BY THREE BIRDS.



THEY LOOK ALIKE BUT LOOK AGAIN!

WHEN FRANCE COMMEMORATED THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF DESCARTES' GREAT WORK "DISCOURS DE LA MÉTHODE", AN ERROR WAS MADE IN THE TITLE - "SUR" FOR "DE". THIS MISTAKE WAS CORRECTED IN A LATER ISSUE.

GOOD WORK FOR GOOD HEALTH

A new hospital for the Channel Island of Alderney is among the many good works described in the Report for 1951 to 1955 of the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust.

Alderney's need is indeed great. This little island, three-and-a-half miles long and about one wide, was evacuated during the war and was largely ruined by the Germans.

Now it has a population of some 1400, and their only hospital is in a dilapidated building which was formerly a public house. The matron and one nurse sleep in two small attics, and another nurse lives out.

MUCH NEEDED REFORMS

The hospital's operating theatre is in what used to be the bar, and there is only one bath, an antiquated one shared by staff and patients. There is no preparation room, nowhere for disinfecting linen, and no proper sterilisation facilities. When stretcher cases are carried to first-floor wards the banisters have to be taken down.

To this hospital come some 70 patients a year, not counting out-patients who often have to be treated in the kitchen.

Now the Nuffield Trustees have come to the rescue, and are to make a grant of £20,000 for a new hospital.

PRINCELY GENEROSITY

Among the Trust's many other projects are the provision of health centres in the new town of Harlow in Essex; a Child Health Centre at Bristol; Day Hospital schemes; a research unit for deaf children; rehabilitation services; and the fostering of research into medical subjects.

These and many other undertakings have been made possible by the generosity of Lord Nuffield. Princely indeed have been his gifts to his fellow men. Only a week or two ago he gave £200,000 to the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre at Oxford to aid research into the causes and treatment of crippling diseases.

Steps to Sporting Fame



An interesting feature of Northern Third Division football this season is the revival of Grimsby Town, formed in 1878 and formerly a First Division club. The revival has followed the arrival on the scene of Allenby Chilton as player-manager.



Chilton has been a centre-half since he was nine, when he played for Ford School, South Hylton, near Sunderland, but it was as right-back that he played for Sunderland Boys. Actually, eight of this representative eleven were really centre-halves—even the goalkeeper, Ray Middleton, later to join Chesterfield and Derby County.



Eventually, Allenby Chilton joined Manchester United and won his League place in September 1939. He played only one match, then League football was suspended for the war. As a soldier, however, he met an old Hylton friend in Bill Robinson, a Sunderland player, and the pair played a lot of wartime football for Charlton.



Robinson became a regular Charlton player when the war ended and won a Cup medal in 1947. Chilton returned to Manchester United and was a commanding figure for many years. He was in the Cup-winning team of 1948, in the League Championship side of 1951-52, and also in England's team which beat Ireland in 1950.

FASCINATION OF MATHS

Many boys and girls find maths a bugbear but few will be able to resist a new book that tells the fascinating history of the subject with a wealth of coloured pictures. It is called *Man Must Measure* (Rathbone Books, 15s.), and the author is Lancelot Hogben, F.R.S., who is justly celebrated for his *Mathematics for the Million*, and *Science for the Citizen*. Here he gives us something of equal value.

We start with a primitive man of some 25,000 years ago holding out three fingers to indicate: "For my one deer you must give me three spearheads." That, it seems, was the beginning of the whole troublesome business. But it would indeed be an obstinate maths-hater who would not gladly go hand-in-hand with Mr. Hogben, by stages, from that calculating caveman to the immortal Pythagoras.

SINCE PYTHAGORAS

Incidentally, he explains why Pythagoras was so anxious to prove his theory about right-angled triangles.

Man has travelled far since Pythagoras, however, and the wonderful story of the development of mathematics—without which there could have been no civilisation—is here unfolded down to the day of Einstein.

This able writer has succeeded in making maths an absorbing story for young people, and everyone will agree with Bertrand Russell's comment on the book: "I cannot too highly recommend this masterpiece of simplification without falsification."

WAITING ROOM BECOMES A CHURCH

The waiting room of the disused railway station at Pinchingthorpe near Guisborough in the North Riding, is being used as a temporary church by the Methodists, their own building having been affected by dry rot. The room seats 50 to 60.

THE CANTEN COMES TO KUWAIT

Some 17,000 schoolchildren of Kuwait, the little State at the head of the Persian Gulf, are now enjoying such meals as they never had before. These are provided free of charge by the local Education Committee through the medium of one of the world's most up-to-date canteen services.

Since crude-oil production started here in 1946 the ruling Sheikh has put aside millions of pounds of his oil revenue for the welfare of his people, especially to set up new schools for the children and improve their health.

As one step towards this, the

architects who are modernising Kuwait enlisted the help of the Industrial Canteens Advisory Service, operated by the well-known London firm of J. Lyons & Company. Three years of work was recently crowned when the Kuwait Minister of Education opened one of the biggest kitchens in the world.

All schoolchildren are now receiving two meals daily—a morning break consisting of a glass of milk and a sandwich, and a lunch such as stewed meat and boiled rice.

To provide these meals the kitchen has its bakery, butchers' department, deep-freeze installation, cold rooms, and a highly mechanised sandwich room.

The whole kitchen is air-conditioned and local labour is employed under English supervisors who were trained in London.

Distribution of the morning break and the midday meal to all the Kuwait schools is made by specially designed refrigerated or insulated vans sent out from

London. These are an absolute necessity in a country where the temperature often reaches 130 degrees.

The canteen scheme provides "self-service" facilities for the older children and a waitress service for the younger ones. All are obviously enjoying their food and particularly their morning break.

By the time the present generation has grown up the scheme will have greatly advanced the living standards of the Kuwait people; and it will attract children who would otherwise never have gone to school at all.

BIG CHRISTMAS ORDER

Hundreds of thousands of Service men and women all over the world are catered for by N.A.A.F.I. The Christmas order this year included 436,000 lb. of poultry, 240,000 toys, 68,130 boxes of crackers, 95,000 lb. of Christmas puddings, 200,000 mince-pies.

One special order was 16 lb. of haggis for the Cameron Highlanders in Korea.

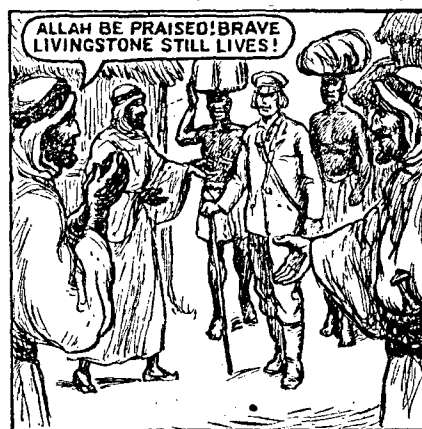
LIVINGSTONE'S AFRICAN TRAVELS—new picture-story of the great missionary (9)



Livingstone felt that he could not continue his journey into unknown country in the company of these murderous slave-traders, and sadly he decided to return to Ujiji. Some of Dugumbé's men who had not taken part in the massacre at Nyangwe, offered him presents of goods, and pressed him not to be ashamed to tell them of all he wanted. But he declined everything save a little gunpowder. In July, 1871, he left Nyangwe.



On the way to Ujiji the explorer and his servants were frequently attacked by natives seeking revenge for the murder of their relatives, and mistaking Livingstone for a slave-trader. He was nearly killed in an ambush prepared by felling trees across his path. Spears, thrown by men hidden in the jungle, narrowly missed him, one almost grazing his back as he ducked. Two of his servants were killed before his party got clear of the forest and reached a friendly village where he found that his telescope, umbrella, and other goods had been lost.



At Ujiji all the Arabs turned out to greet Livingstone. But again he found that goods sent here for him from the coast had vanished—this time they had been sold by a dishonest trader. He was almost destitute. A kindly Arab offered to sell some ivory and give him the proceeds, but Livingstone answered, "Not yet, but by and by." He was unwilling to become dependent on the man's charity.



Livingstone wrote that he felt in his destitution like the man who went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves; "but I could not hope for a Priest, Levite, or good Samaritan to come by on the other side." Then one morning, when his spirits were at their lowest ebb, his servant Susi came running in wild excitement with the news that a white man was coming.

Who is this man who seems to have dropped from the skies? See next week's instalment

Grand adventure serial

SCHOOL BEYOND THE SNOWS

by Geoffrey Trease

The Birdwood family have come to live in a houseboat on the lake in Buristan, in the Himalayas, where Mr. Birdwood has been made head of a new school. Someone cuts their floating home adrift during the night, but Prince Kanishka, ruler of Buristan, rescues them with his launch.

10. Back to school

"You are sure this was done on purpose, Birdwood?"

The little Prince looked grave. Mr. Birdwood smoothed back the unruly lock of hair that had a way of slanting down across his brown eyes. Today those eyes had none of their usual good-humoured twinkle. His wife and children had just escaped a terrible death in the river-gorge, and it would be a long time before he forgot the horrors through which they had lived during the past hour or two.

"Sure, as anything," he answered in a low voice. No one but the Prince could hear him above the noise of the engine and the slap of wavelets against the sides of the launch. The sky had cleared again. Two or three miles away the domes and towers

of Dalipur glinted along the lake-side, and behind them, floating high and remote as the very clouds, stretched the snow-peaks of the Himalayas.

"As I told you," the headmaster went on, "one of our mooring ropes was cut—and the other three must have been untied. They were firmly fastened last night. I always look last thing, before turning in."

"That is bad."

"And before you came along just now—when we'd managed to get ashore—there was a man watching from the hill above. He didn't answer our signals, he just



A chorus of mournful groans rose from the school

made off. I think he'd been posted there to see that we were swept down the gorge—as planned."

"As planned?"

"Well, anyone knowing the currents of the lake would be able to foresee which way we'd drift."

"That is true," agreed Prince Kanishka. "When boats are lost, they are usually swept through the Fangs of Death and then down the river over the waterfall. But who would wish—"

"I have one suggestion, sir."

The great power

Mr. Birdwood told the Prince about his nameless visitor of a few weeks before—the sinister-looking old man who had tried, both with bribes and threats, to get him to give up his work at the school. "I've a feeling he was somebody important," said Mr. Birdwood. "I'm pretty sure my servants recognised him, but they were afraid to give me his name. But they knew it, all right!"

"So do I—I think."

"You do, sir?" Mr. Birdwood glanced keenly at the Prince, whose smooth, almost girlish face looked troubled. It was hard to realise that, less than an hour before, the Prince had been risking his own life on the rope bridge

and displaying toughness and courage which did not at all match his delicate appearance.

"It sounds remarkably like my dear friend Mr. Ghose."

"And who is he, sir?"

"Mr. Ghose is a great power in the land," said Prince Kanishka, his lip curling with disgust. "He works behind the scenes. My uncle, the late Prince, was old, as you know. He was also weak and easy-going. Mr. Ghose liked the way Buristan was run in those days—it suited him. He does not like the changes I am making. He does not like our school."

More dirty work?

"What harm does it do him?"

"Not much yet, Birdwood. But if the school succeeds—if we train a new generation of young men, men who not only understand modern ideas but also believe in truth and justice—then it is the end of the bad old ways. So Mr. Ghose is desperate."

"H'm. Then he may try some more dirty work?"

"We must be prepared. You will understand, of course, I can do nothing to him at present. We have only our suspicions—and Mr. Ghose is so powerful that I dare not act against him without clear evidence. But do not worry, Birdwood. I will give certain orders. There will be a police guard on your houseboat, night and day."

With that promise, the Birdwoods had to be satisfied. Luckily life was so busy that they had little time to worry about future dangers. Every day at the new school brought its own quota of incidents and problems.

Everything was so different from school life in England. Sometimes, as young Bill remarked, it was as though they had followed Alice "through the looking-glass" into the topsyturvy world beyond.

There was, for instance, the day when Mr. Birdwood announced to the assembled boys: "The work this term has been excellent. When His Royal Highness inspected us yesterday, he was very pleased indeed with the start you have made. For that reason I have decided that tomorrow will be a whole holiday!"

Unexpected groans

He smiled and waited for the cheers. Instead, a chorus of mournful groans rose from the school. Mr. Birdwood blinked and turned to Mr. Chatterjee.

"Don't they want a holiday?"

The Hindu teacher smiled. "No, sir. They say they come to school to learn—how can they learn if you send them away?"

"Well, if they're really keen to come tomorrow, we'd better carry on as usual."

This time the cheers were deafening. Brian and Jen looked at each other and rolled their eyes heavenwards in mock despair. What a country, where nobody wanted holidays!

They found it difficult to understand their school-mates and make friends with them, though they did their best. They were both anxious to seem friendly,

Continued on page 11

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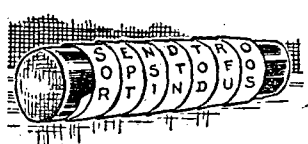
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message written across the edges. The sketch shows a staff carrying the message "Send troops to Fort Indus."

When unrolled the parchment appeared to have only a number of random letters, but if wound again on an exactly similar staff the message could easily be read.

Nowadays it may appear to be a crude and simple method, but in those days knowledge of reading was not so universal as it is today.



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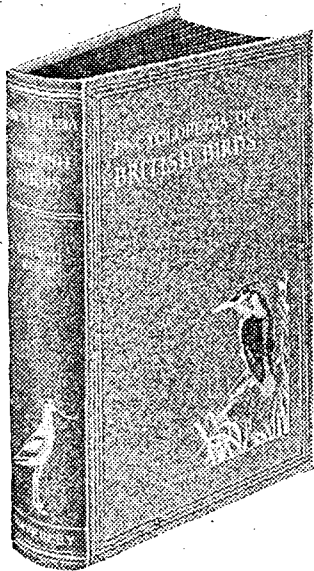
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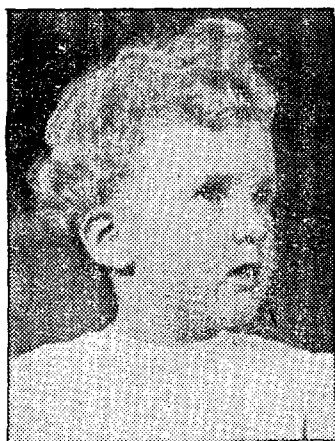
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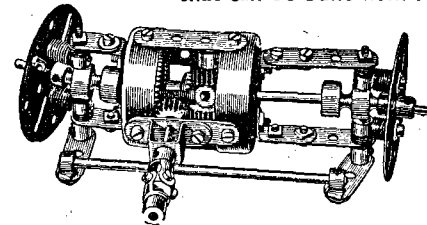
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How are the front wheels steered while being driven?

Four-wheel and front-wheel drives are more complicated than normal rear drive because universal joints have to be fitted in the front axles to allow the wheels to be steered. But it does not seem complicated to Meccano boys! A front-wheel drive unit is only one of hundreds of working models containing ingenious mechanisms that can be built with Meccano.

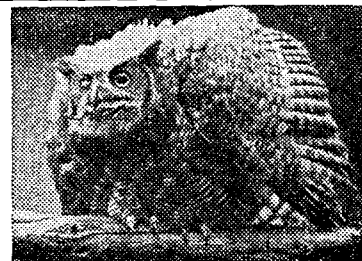
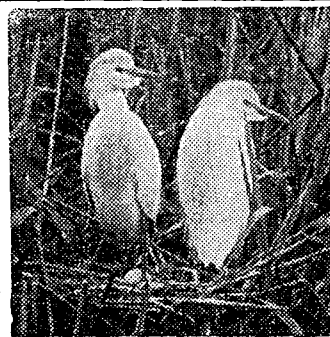


This Meccano assembly reproduces the kind of front-wheel drive used on many Service vehicles.

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The Children's Newspaper, December 3, 1955

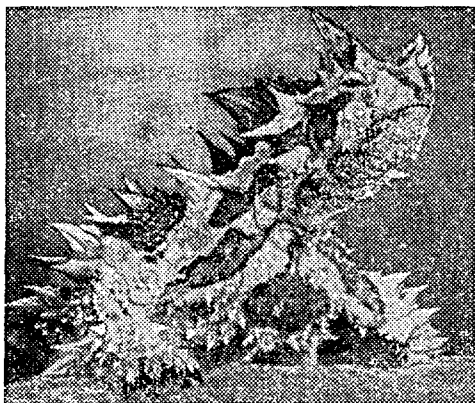
MEET MOLOCH THE THORNY DEVIL

The fearsome-looking Australian lizard seen below, Moloch Loricatus, is really quite inoffensive.

It has a tiny mouth, far too small to bite effectively, and it feeds only on ants, mopping them up with its tongue one by one and eating as many as 5000 at a single meal. Known also as the Spiny or Thorny Devil, it is found mainly in the sandy regions of the centre of Australia and on the edge of the deserts.

The spines you can see form part of a protective armour which completely covers the back.

Most Australian lizards, like



those found in Britain, travel like quicksilver when alarmed. Not so the Moloch; it moves slowly and deliberately. When alarmed it does not run away but simply crouches down a little so that the soft underparts are hidden and the spines are directed upward.

The spines are very strong and sharp and no doubt keep at bay lizard-eating creatures such as hawks and kookaburras.

The female Moloch lays about five white eggs. She scoops a hollow in the sand with her feet, looks round stealthily to make certain nothing can see what goes on (you can watch this quite easily if you keep still), and drops the eggs in the depression. Finally she rakes the sand back and leaves them to their fate.

If all goes well the heat of the sun eventually hatches them and more little Molochs enter the world to keep down the ant population.

White Line of Safety

When and where did the first white safety line appear on British roads?

It was stated recently that the first was believed to be one painted in 1930 on the road from Nottingham to Newark.

But only a few weeks ago we quoted the Children's Newspaper of October 3, 1925, which told of a Ministry of Transport circular urging the general use of the white safety line at dangerous corners or crossroads, and offering to help with its cost. That same issue also carried a picture of a white line on the Cambridge Road at Ware.

KENT PIONEER

That was not the first white line, however. In 1922 a line was marked at a dangerous bend in the main Oxford to Reading road; but we have to go back a further twenty years to trace the pioneer of white lines. The original idea came from Sir Henry Maybury, who at that time was the Kent county surveyor.

Roads were not tarred in those days and so the idea was not really practicable. But Sir Henry did have a mile-long line painted on a road near Ashford.

After puzzling people for a couple of months the paint wore away and the idea seems to have been forgotten for many years.

Flowers for the Spring



Every child attending the Petworth Primary School, Sussex, has been given a flower pot and one daffodil bulb, to be taken home for the winter and brought back to school in the Spring. Here Sheila Pottington shows two friends how to plant the bulbs.

Prizes for CN readers

We offer congratulations to Michael Green, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Patricia Machin, Birmingham; Graham Peel, Hampton Hill; Gillian Schofield, Stoke-on-Trent; Brian White, Newcastle-on-Tyne; and Judith Wright, Bournemouth, all of whom win Microscopes for their entries in CN Competition No. 37.

Runners-up, who win Fountainpens, are: David Ball, Ilford; Peter Bryant, Market Harborough; Jean English, Truro; Judith Fidler, Mapledurham; Roger Giles, London, E.17; James Hill, Rugeley; Edna Pitteway, Slough; Roger Powell, Liverpool; Roy Smith, Swinbridge; and Paul Williams, Cheltenham.

To be continued

SCHOOL BEYOND THE SNOWS

Continued from page 9

and they also wanted to help their father by making it a happy school, but sometimes they felt like giving up the effort.

The Buristani boys were suspicious. They could not understand the English idea that pupils did not sneak to masters even when the master was their own father. For a long time they looked upon the Birdwood children as spies.

Then there were all the things they could not do because they were considered "low-class" or against their religion. Brahmin boys could not come to tea on the houseboat because they would be unclean if they ate European food. And there was one awful day when the Birdwoods themselves were invited to a school-fellow's home in the city, and found that no one else was eating. "The grub was all right," Brian reported wistfully to his parents, "but we didn't like to eat much, with everyone watching."

In class, everyone was tremendously keen—"makes you sick," Brian growled, "the way they keep sticking up their hands with questions." He found that most of his own set could beat him at maths, but his father told him not to be too downhearted. The people of the East, it was well known, had a genius for that subject.

Murder threat?

At sport, progress was being made. The swimming lessons went well. Many of the boys still refused to play football, so Mr. Birdwood tried hockey instead—no one seemed to mind the leather ball, so long as they only had to hit it with a stick.

"Hockey's much better," said Jen. "Now I can join in, too!"

A few boys were slow to learn that rules were made to be kept—

and that tempers were, as well. Sometimes a game was held up by a furious quarrel—and a quarrel in Buristan was a quarrel, a matter of blood-curdling threats and dramatic gestures. Once young Bill was amazed when a nine-year-old, whose shin had been kicked by another boy, turned to him with flashing eyes and cried:

"Hold me, Bill, hold me! Or I shall commit murder!"

But, generally speaking, the boys were settling down and the good reputation of the school was spreading through the State. So many fathers wanted to send their sons that an entrance examination was held.

Mysterious pupil

"I say, daddy," said Jen at tea that day. "You know that nice-looking boy who sells oranges near the landing-stage?"

"I can't say I've noticed him. Why?"

"He was sitting for the exam this morning. Second row at the end—on the right."

"You must have made a mistake, Jen. That boy is Abdul Khan, the son of a rich landowner up the valley. I specially noticed, because he was scribbling away so hard and Mr. Chatterjee told me he seemed to be doing a very good paper."

"But I'm sure—" began Jen. "You must be wrong, dear. Some of these boys look very much alike to our western eyes. A fruit-seller would never be able to afford the fees."

Jen said no more, but she looked thoughtful. Afterwards she drew her brothers apart. "Are you game for a bit of detective work tomorrow?" she asked. "There's something very mysterious going on."



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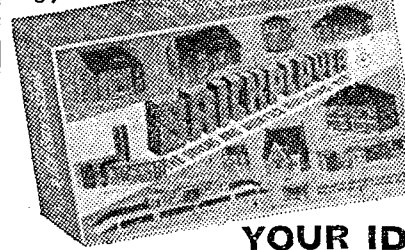
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GHOST TOWN COMING TO LIFE

Some 4500 feet high on a mountainside in British Columbia is a deserted heap of dusty rubble that was once a town called Phoenix. It was a bustling copper-mining town, able to boast that it was "the highest city in Canada."

But the price of copper fell to seven cents a pound and the mining company abandoned its workings. Phoenix became a "ghost" town; its doors swung crazily on broken hinges, roofs fell in from decay.

Now that copper has risen to about 45 cents a pound, crews of workers are already being sent to Phoenix to bring it back to life again.

SAVING THE LIFEBOAT

John Sharman, 16-year-old son of the Aldeburgh lifeboat engineer, saved the boat from being carried out to sea the other day. It was being hauled up empty along the slipway after a practice launch when the chain snapped. It slid back down the slipway into the sea.

John held on, however, and waist deep in water swung over the side and climbed aboard.

He was able to steer until he could throw a rope to the crew of the reserve lifeboat which had been launched, and the boat was thus brought safely to shore. But it was badly holed through hitting beach groynes.



Making music is their hobby

The Chalk family of Broad Chalk, in Wiltshire, are great supporters of their local band. Father has played in it for over 30 years; his sons John and Dennis are experienced performers; and now young Raymond is following them.

WREN CHURCH RESTORED

A fine little London church, St. Martin-within-Ludgate, has just been restored and redecorated. It takes its name from one of the old City gateways.

Seen from Fleet Street, its spire points directly to the summit of the great dome of St. Paul's.

When Wren built it in 1684 it was at least the third church on this site. Rebuilt in 1437, the second church was destroyed in the Great Fire of London.

THE ATOM MAY HELP YOUR TEETH

The atom may soon be helping the dentist.

American scientists at the University of Michigan believe that radio-isotopes may help to increase their knowledge of the best way to fill diseased teeth. They are studying animals' teeth to find out how calcium hydroxide is absorbed. By mixing this with radio-isotopes, its action on teeth can be closely studied with the aid of a geiger counter.

ONE MORE DREAMING SPIRE

An addition is being made to the towers and spires of Oxford which have touched the imagination of so many poets.

It will be the tower of Nuffield College, a modern centre of learning in the University. Built with money given by Lord Nuffield, the college will carry out research in industrial problems during recent years.

The new building, which will be 150 feet high, will be seen on Oxford's skyline close to the Norman Tower and mound built in the time of William the Conqueror. Nuffield College has been built on part of the site of the old bailey or outer wall of the castle.

Clipsham stone is being used for the new building. The local stone used for some of the older colleges in Oxford is flaking badly and it has been found that Clipsham stone stands up best to the weather there.

EVERGREEN LINER

In a garden at St. Lawrence, Isle of Wight, is a privet hedge clipped in the shape of the ship Queen Mary. This evergreen model of the famous liner is quite a show-piece, and the owner, Mr. J. B. White, has long been collecting pennies from passing admirers of his work.

As a result the Shipwrecked Mariners Society has received over £400 from him in the last 18 years.

WHY SUSAN WALKS TO SCHOOL

Young Susan Wood has decided to help the Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Having read Sir Anthony Eden's speech appealing for £175,000 towards the cost, she has been walking to school and back every day. When she has walked 60 miles and thus saved 5s. she will send it to the fund.

Susan is a pupil at the Bradford Girls' Grammar School and a patrol-leader of the 1st Allerton Company, Bradford Girl Guides.

Queen's beast



Mr. James Woodford, R.A., reproduced the Queen's Beasts in plaster for the Coronation annex at Westminster Abbey. Now he is carving them in stone for Kew Gardens.



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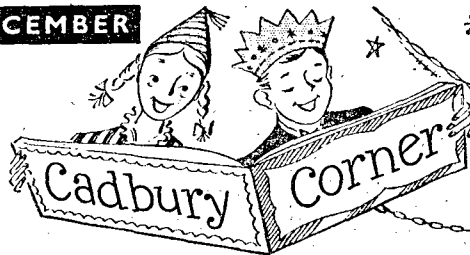
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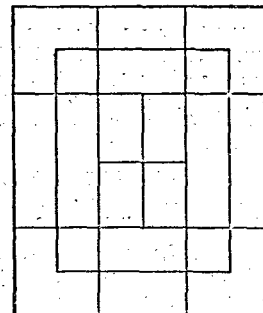
Win a wonderful parcel of Cadbury Chocolates CHOOSE YOUR COMPETITION!

500 parcels of wonderful Cadbury Chocolates are offered for the neatest correct entries in each of these two prize-winning competitions. You can win only one prize, of course—but you can enter for both competitions if you wish. The competitions are open only to children under 16 living in great Britain or Northern Ireland.



Take the first letter of each of the presents on this Christmas tree and re-arrange them to form the name of the mystery present in the box at the foot of the tree. Write the name of the mystery present on a postcard, together with your name, age and address, and send it to 'Mystery Box', CADBURY'S, Dept. 23, BOURNVILLE, BIRMINGHAM, by December 21st. Chocolate Prizes will be awarded for the 500 neatest correct entries marked on that date.

How
many
squares
?



Study this diagram very carefully and count up the number of squares you can see. Write your answer clearly on a postcard, together with your name, age and address, and send it to 'Squares', CADBURY'S, Dept. 23, BOURNVILLE, BIRMINGHAM, by December 21st. Chocolate Prizes will be awarded for the 500 neatest correct entries marked on that date.

Let's have a game of

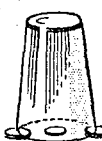
BANG!

You will get some good reports from your Christmas Party when you play this exciting game. Arrange players into two teams, each team sitting on a row of chairs facing the other. Give every player a paper bag on which he must sit. At the word 'Go', the first player in each team jumps up, runs round the team, blows up his paper bag and bursts it with his fist. Only at the Bang, and not till then, can the second player start. The team with every bag banged first wins.

A Conjuring Trick FOR CHRISTMAS

On the tablecloth balance a tumbler upside down on two piles of coins. Place a 1d. underneath as shown. Now challenge your friends to remove the 1d. without touching the tumbler or the 1d.

YOU can do it like this. Scratch the cloth with your finger-nail as close to the glass as possible and the coin will 'walk' out. BUT—do be sure to practise this trick first to make sure you can do it.



★ A Merry Christmas to all Cadbury Corner Fans!

SPORTS SHORTS

WEMBLEY Stadium will stage one of the most important international Soccer matches of the season this Wednesday, when England meet Spain. The footballers of these countries have met on four previous occasions, the two pre-war games ending in one victory each. Since the war the Spaniards have beaten our players in the 1950 World Cup, in Rio, and last May the two teams drew 1-1 in Barcelona.

Handicap five



Although only 16, Ruth Porter, of West Dene, Bristol, has already won many golf honours in Girls' matches, including her foursome for England against Scotland. Her handicap is five.

AN Australian netball team is to tour Britain next year. A party of 14 players and officials will arrive early in March to compete in matches until the end of May. Netball is only in its infancy in Australia, and this tour will do much to provide coaching and experience for the members of the visiting party.

His memento

JOE DAVIS, the great snooker player, won many of his championships at the Leicester Square Hall, better known as Thurston's. When this famous old London hall was closed recently for demolition, he naturally wanted some memento. So he bought the doors and had them installed in the billiards room of his flat.

SWANSEA schoolboys continue to win sporting honours. Bishop Gore Grammar School are the new winners of the Sladen Trophy for the boys' squadron (team) swimming championship of Wales. This is the first victory by a Swansea school in this competition since 1937.

Star on ice and tennis court

A FEW years ago one of the stars of the Czechoslovakian ice hockey team was Jaroslav Drobný, later to become even more famous on the world's tennis courts. One of the outstanding players of the present Czechoslovakian ice hockey team which has been touring England was Vladimir Zabrodsky, who is rated No. 2 among present-day Czech tennis players.

DEREK GRANT, 13-year-old Isle of Wight schoolboy, is one of England's most promising table tennis players. He appeared in his first league match at the age of nine, when he partnered his father in the Ventnor team, competing in the Isle of Wight League. Recently he appeared in an English Under-15 team against Belgium.

No dumplings

It is recognised that diet plays an important part in an athlete's performance. So when the players of the Falmouth Rugby Club seemed to be rather sluggish at the beginning of the season their trainer decided that Cornish pasties and dumplings were the cause of the trouble. "No more of these between Thursday and Saturday," he said. And now the team is enjoying its most successful season.

JOHN SHAW, a nephew of Lindsay Hassett, former captain of Australia, is being hailed as a future Test batsman. He has achieved some fine scores in Melbourne, and as Australia has a shortage of opening batsmen, John may well follow in the footsteps of his uncle.

Roller championships

THIS weekend the National Roller Skating Association championships will be staged at Birmingham. Among the competitors hoping to regain a title is Mrs. Maureen Hill, 22-year-old London typist, who won the amateur half-mile championship in 1952, and with it the world record for the distance. Her husband, Denis Hill, is Britain's speed champion.

MANCHESTER UNITED's ground at Old Trafford is not a happy hunting ground for London League clubs. Not since 1938, when Charlton Athletic won 2-0, has a London club been victorious there. Incidentally, Charlton's evergreen goalkeeper, Sam Bartram, is the only member of that team still playing today.

It's not cricket



Lord's, the famous London home of the M.C.C. has a rather untidy "player" to scare the birds from the newly sown seed on the wicket.

SERVING in the Army three years ago, young Colin Bridge of Roxwell, near Chelmsford, discovered that he had a natural aptitude for cross-country skiing. He won the British Army championship. Although he has not donned skis since he left the Army 18 months ago his talent was remembered, and he was invited to join Britain's Olympic party to train in Norway. But Colin could not afford to lose his job and he had to refuse the invitation. Then his firm offered to keep his job open, his parents said they would "tighten their belts"—and the other day Colin set out to try to win an Olympic medal.

New archer



Marian Roberts, aged 19, of Wembley, Middlesex, has been practising only a few weeks at the Ruislip Bees Archery Club, but by the end of the season she hopes to qualify as a first-class archer.

The Uber Cup

FOR some years now Mrs. H. S. Uber, well-known English badminton international, has been trying to persuade the International Badminton Federation to stage a women's team championship on the lines of the Thomas Cup for men. The proposition has now been accepted and next year will see the inauguration of the competition for the Uber Cup.

TWO teams have taken part in an athletics meeting this summer—without ever meeting. The match, between South London Harriers and Lynndale, New Zealand, was run by "correspondence." The events were decided on the best times of three runners from each club, and on a basis of six points for the first man, down to one for the sixth. South London won by 160 points to 92.

To improve your fielding

WRITING in the autumn Annual of the Women's Cricket Association, Miss Betty Snowall recalls one of the methods used by Lealie Constantine to make him one of the world's most brilliant fielders.

"He and his sister used to clear the table by throwing dishes across the room to each other. They couldn't afford to miss."

But do not try this unless you have mother's consent!

The OVALTINEYS' own 'Puzzle Corner'

Can you spot the 4 different pairs?

In this puzzle two things are the same colour; two are made of the same material; two are the same shape; and two are used for same purpose.

EVERY BOY AND GIRL SHOULD JOIN THE LEAGUE OF OVALTINEYS

Members of the League of Ovaltineys have their own special radio programme, the Ovaltineys Concert Party, broadcast from Radio Luxembourg at 6.15 p.m. every Sunday during the Autumn and Winter months. You can join the League and obtain your badge and the official Rule Book (which contains the secret high-signs, signals and code, and the words and music of the Ovaltine songs) by sending a label from a tin of 'Ovaltine' with your full name, address and age to: THE CHIEF OVALTINEY (Dept. D), 42, Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

OVALTINE

Remember to tune in to the Ovaltineys Concert Party on Radio Luxembourg (208 metres) at 6.15 p.m. every Sunday.

Turn this upside down to find the correct answers.

1. Pillar-box and Strawberry (Both are red).
2. String and Sack (Both are made of hemp).
3. Parachute and Umbrella (Both are the same shape when opened).
4. Horseshoe and Clog (Both are used to protect the feet).

THE ISLE OF CATS

by John Symonds

Telling of a small boy's visit to a far-off isle, where only cats live.

8s. 6d.

With many illustrations in colour and black and white

by Gerard Hoffnung

WERNER LAURIE

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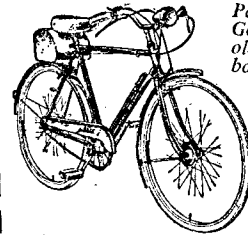


But, of course, it must be a Hercules—the dream bicycle for all Boys and Girls. The most exciting and glamorous gift under the Tree any youngster could wish for. And Parents, on Christmas Day, tell your boy or girl this: "Hercules has been tested in action in leading National and Continental events—that is why Hercules is The Finest Bicycle Built To-day." Send for NEW Leaflet to Dept. C.N., The Hercules Cycle & Motor Co. Ltd., Aston, Birmingham, 6.

'JEEP' For ages 7-9, according to height. Frame: 18 in. Adult-Size Tubing. Standard Finish Black Enamel. Boy's £13.13.6d. Girl's £13.18.6d. (with chainguard) Green, Blue or Red small extra



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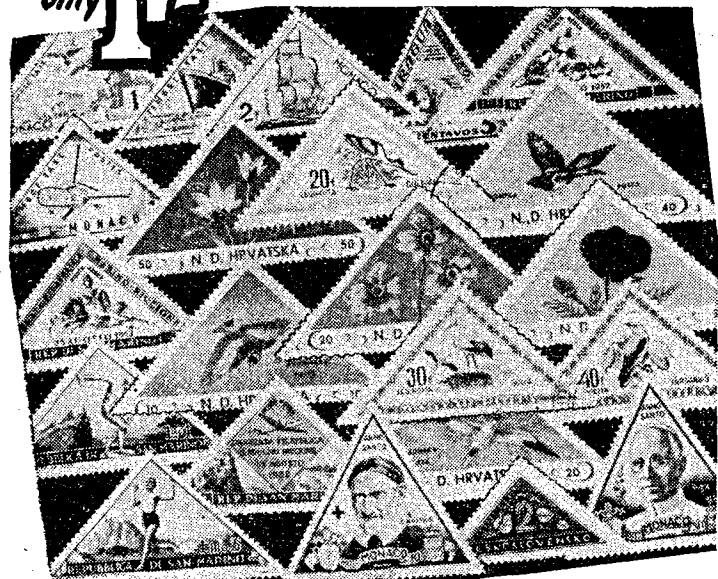
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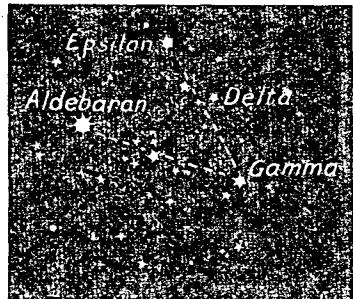
107 Rydens Rd., Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

LOOKING AT THE SKY

ALDEBARAN, THE BULL'S EYE

THE bright reddish star Aldebaran, popularly known as the Bull's Eye, is now a prominent feature of the south-east sky in the evenings. This singular star, one of the giant suns of the Heavens, will be readily identified from our star-map, for it appears to be at the left corner of that V-shaped cluster of stars, the Hyades.

Aldebaran is also known to astronomers as Alpha Tauri (Alpha-in-Taurus), for it is the



Aldebaran and the chief stars of the Hyades Cluster

leading star in the grand constellation of Taurus the Bull.

This grand star has held its prominent place in the constellation of Taurus since the beginnings of history, and as one of the stellar jewels of this "Bull," sacred to so many ancient peoples. Inscriptions have been traced back to some 5000 years B.C. The strong red glint caused the ancient astronomer-priests of Chaldea, Assyria, and Egypt to see it in their symbolical Bull's "eye."

MASS OF FIRE

Nowadays we know Aldebaran to be a giant sun in an early stage of its existence. It has a measured diameter of 32,600,000 miles, so were it as near to us as our Sun it would appear as a colossal mass of reddish fire-mist and flame rent by whirling currents in rapid motion and a tumult of fire. Life on Earth would be impossible.

Many of the elements, such as we know well on Earth, provide the fuel for this colossal sphere of

fire, but at the surface of Aldebaran they are all in a state of radiant vapour.

This rapidly revolving sphere has a diameter some 38 times wider than our Sun and radiates about 60 times more heat and light. It is about 2,784,000 times farther away than our Sun so its light takes some 44 years to reach us; moreover, Aldebaran is speeding away from us at the rate of about 10½ miles a second, so ages hence this great sun will cease to adorn the Hyades Cluster as it appears to do now.

Accompanying Aldebaran is a small planetary sun radiating only about one-thousandth of our Sun's light. It would appear to be a world in the making.

The Hyades Cluster presents another feature of great interest in this region of our Universe. About 25 stars are perceptible to the unaided eye on a clear night, and between 50 and 60 are revealed through glasses; several pairs of stars can be seen. Upwards of a hundred stars are to be seen through a small telescope and more appear through astronomical telescopes.

SPEEDING EASTWARDS

Aldebaran is not one of this cluster of stars, for it is only about one-third of the average distance of the Hyades, some 136 light-years. Actually, many of these colossal stars are separated by distances of many light-years' journey.

It has been found that the stars of the Hyades are all speeding through our Universe in the same direction (towards the east) like a vast flock of migrating stellar birds.

They are of a very different type to the Pleiades, being much more advanced in stellar evolution and more like our own Sun. Doubtless some have worlds and satellites revolving round them; if so, their skies would present something like 30 bright stars for every one of those in our sky. G. F. M.

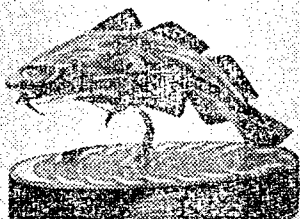
KN 628 will fly no more

One of the most famous aircraft used for the transport of important people by the Royal Air Force has been retired after 2447 flying hours. This is the Dakota KN 628, which has taken part in more historic post-war events than any other plane.

In 1945 KN 628 became the personal aircraft of Field Marshal Lord Montgomery, and he made hundreds of flights in it.

In 1947 KN 628 took Princess Margaret on her first official duty when she flew to Belfast to launch a new liner. The plane carried Lord Iowitt and Sir Hartley Shawcross back from the Nuremberg trials, and was also used by Ernest Bevin when he was Foreign Secretary; indeed, almost all the members of the Cabinet have flown in KN 628.

Trawler trophy



The first winner of the British Trawler Federation's silver cod trophy is the Arctic Warrior of Hull, which last year brought in a record catch of 2662 tons.

HE MET A TRAFALGAR VETERAN

Captain A. G. Cole of Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, well remembers Trafalgar Day 1880. He has good reason to, for on that occasion he was introduced to Admiral of the Fleet, Sir George Sartorius, who as a midshipman had fought in the battle of Trafalgar.

Admiral Sartorius was the last survivor of the great sea-fight. He died in 1885 at the age of 95.

PROOF THAT IT WAS WATERPROOF

A man in Germany wanted to prove that his new method of water-proofing watches really worked, so he fastened a watch to a ship sailing from Hamburg to Heligoland.

After the seven-hour voyage he inspected the watch and found it still keeping time. Then he put the watch in a refrigerator to test its resistance to humidity inside the case. It passed this trial also with flying colours.

ONE SUNDAY MORNING

Out for a Sunday morning stroll, a cat decided it would investigate the top of the cooling towers of the Bury Power Station, Lancashire. These towers are approximately 100 feet high.

But the cat found it easier to go up than to come down, so the local fire brigade was sent for and after being coaxed for 30 minutes or so she was brought safely to the ground to resume her Sunday morning stroll.

Pure Platinum Plated 'FILM STAR' WATCH
Simulation Diamond Set
Setting closely resembles fine White Diamonds. This beautiful Ladies' Watch sparkles like stardust. Set on the four quarters is a choice of sapphire, ruby, or emerald coloured stones. Offered for the first time in England. Accurate pin-lever jewelled movement. Comp. guar. £4.19.6 on cordette, 21/- extra for dainty bracelet. Luminous dial 6/6 extra. Sent for 3/6 dep. If satis. pay 18 fortnightly pmts. 6/-. Plated with pure unadulterated Platinum.

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What little girl age 3 to 12 would not just jump for joy to be dressed up like a real Red Cross nurse? A navy blue silky rayon dress with white taped sleeves, white Peter Pan collar and separate apron marked Red Cross, and Cap. The dress itself is really wearable and is attractively cut in real Red Cross style and trimmed. Age 3 to 7, 7/6; 8 to 9, 10/-; 10 to 12, 12/6. Post, etc., 1/-.

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50,000 PAIRS, BRAND NEW ALPINE COMMANDO FRENCH THEATRE OF WAR ANKLE BOOTS
5/9 Pair Post etc. 1/3
All leather uppers, supple leather soles, quiet tread. Brand-new with solid leather laces. High Ankle ideal motor cyclists, farm workers, factory workers or outdoor sporting activities. Comfortable. 8 to 12 only. 5/9 pr. Post 1/6. Built-in Gasseted leather tongues make them wear resisting. **3 PAIRS 17/6. POST FREE.** Despatch Riders' Jackets, 3/4 length new Govt. Stock. Hard wearing double texture proofed woven material. 36 to 40, 13/11, post 1/9. 42 to 44, 5/- extra.

CHILDRENS Double-Breasted NAVY BLUE GABARDINE RAINCOATS
Sent for 5/- Post etc. 1/6
ALSO IN BROWN. For a treacherous winter we can recommend this school trench coat style, double breasted, proofed and lined throughout. Sent for 5/- and 5/- monthly. Cash price 32/11. Sizes 22-24, sizes 26 to 32, 5/- extra. 34 to 42, 10/- extra.

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Sent for 2/6
CONSTRUCTED OF SUPERB "TOM-TOM" COTTON PROOFED FABRIC AND NOT MADE OF NYLON. Size 4'3" x 4'3", height 5'6". Built with strong and durable collapsible alloy frame so that you may dismantle the tent swiftly and transport elsewhere. No centre pole. Can be erected anywhere, in the house or out of doors. No pegs required. Will accommodate 4/5 children. A THRILLING GIFT FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES. SENT FOR ONLY 2/6 DEPOSIT, then pay 4 monthly payments of 5/9. Cash price 21/-. Post, etc., 2/6.

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Reduced from 70/- to 29/6 Post, etc. 1/-
A/O 200-250, also 110/140v. A complete factor's stock of the famous De Luxe Electric Shaver, reduced from 70/- to 29/6. Automatic self-sharpening blade. Drastically reduced owing to liquidation offer. Safe, easy, no soap or brush, a matter of minutes for the perfect shave. Limited stocks. Complete with manufacturer's written guarantee.

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Be an Interplanetary Commander Officer. Wear this metallic Blue Space Suit and pressure helmet. Be the first Earth Man to Jupiter. Can also be worn over outdoor clothing, guaranteed waterproof and for boys aged 8 to 12. Waxed and adjustable, visor on helmet. Lightning flashes on breast panel. State 12/11, post, etc., 1/6.

1500 FT. RANGE PILOT BRAND SEARCH-LIGHT TORCH
16/6 Post etc. 1/6
Amazingly powerful up to 1/3rd of a mile, will focus from a spot to a beam. Portable, only 1½ lbs. Chromed Brass. Spot the fox, trespassers, for moorland, dark country lanes. Literally turns night into day. Complete with Batteries 16/6. Post 1/6.

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SENT FOR ONLY 3/6 DEPOSIT CASH PRICE £4.19.6
For the first time you can own this wrist watch, genuinely plated with pure unadulterated Platinum. With calendar dial that keeps you informed of date. Novel but practical for sportsmen and businessmen. Automatic action changes date every 24 hours. Real pin-lever escapement, shock, dust resist. Neat flat case. Guar. £4.19.6 on strap, bracelet 21/- ext. Luminous 6/6 ext. 3/6 dep. If satis. 18 fortnightly payments 6/-. Lists, Terms.

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Imagine travelling at 10,000 m.p.h. Play at brave pioneers rushing through space and be first on the Moon. Attractive coloured Wind, Rain and Element resisting material. Durable. Silver tipped. Equipment includes: Astral Compass. Large enough for 4 boys, the Scientist, Pilot, Radio Operator and 1 Crew. Stands indoors or outdoors. Height 5'3". Sent for 2/6 deposit, balance 6 monthly payments of 5/4. Cash price 29/11, post 1/6. SPACE SUITS 12/11 each.

Genuine BRITISH NAVAL Telescope Gun Sight
25/-
Naval telescope, powerful day and night lenses, modern micrometer automatic range focus apparatus. Splendid object lens. Approx. 15 in. in length. Picks out object with clarity and precision at many miles' range. Scientific instrument that cost the Government many pounds to make. Buy one; it is a real investment. Made by famous instrument makers. Only 25/-. Post and packing 2/6.

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Local colour

Three girls in traditional Welsh costumes, went to the British National Ploughing Championships held at Sealand, in Flintshire, a mile or so from Chester.

THE BRAN TUB

THE DREAMER

HE used to dream of things he'd do
When grown to be a man,
Beguiling boyhood's years away
With many an idle plan.
But now, when grown to be a man,
He knows no greater joy
Than dreaming of the things he'd do,
If he were still a boy!

SPOT THE . . .

FILDLFARE as, with others of the thrush family, he patrols the hedgerows seeking berries. This handsome visitor usually arrives during the autumn. He is about ten inches long, a little bigger than our song-thrush but smaller than the missel-thrush. His head and rump are grey and his back a chestnut-brown. Other points of identification are a rounded tail, and a whiteness beneath the wings which shows in flight.



In the North, fieldfares are called Felts. Another local name is Bluebacks. Although chiefly berry-eaters, hard weather and a corresponding scarcity of berries will drive them to estuaries and marshes.

SEEK THE SOCCER CLUB

In the following paragraph the words printed in italics are an anagram of a famous football club. Which one?

DURING hot, sunny weather most ponds are visited by dragonflies. These handsome insects will skim over the water, their beautiful metallic colours glittering in the sunlight as they twist and turn at astonishing speed. Their fearsome appearance will often mar the pleasure of timid folk, who imagine dragonflies sting. Actually, they are quite harmless.

Answer in column 5

NAMESAKE

LADY to new milkman: "How much is my milk bill?"
Milkman: "How did you know my name was Bill?"

No parking here!



The police in Cologne, Germany, put up this amusing sign to direct motorists to a proper parking place.

THAT'S ONE WAY OF PUTTING IT

THE Irishman slipped from a ladder and fell several feet to the ground.

"Did the fall hurt you?" asked his mate anxiously.

"Not a bit," said Pat. "'twas stopping so suddenly that was painful."

FAVOURITE DOLL

"I've just a cupboard full of dolls;

There's Golliwog, who's black,
And Mistress Jane, who's rather vain,

And jolly Sailor Jack,
And Lady Clare, and Teddy Bear;
But little china Doll

I love far better than the rest,
She's quite my fav'rite doll!

It's not because she's grandly dressed

And clever—it's not that,
She only wears a little vest,
And tiny woollen hat,

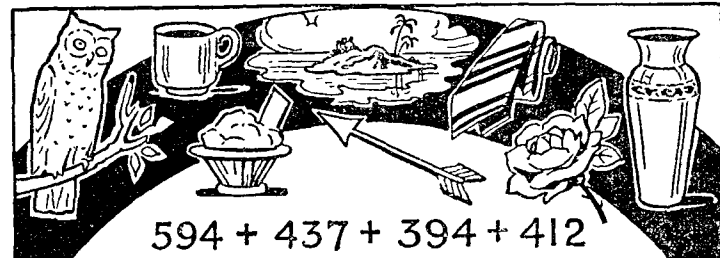
While Mistress Jane can close her eyes,

And Jack is smart and talks;
But Polly is the very size
For me to take for walks!

A ROYAL PUZZLE

PUT the initial letters of these objects in their correct order and you have the name of a British queen. If you then add the figures together you will have the year when she came to the throne.

Answer in column 5



594 + 437 + 394 + 412

TWO WAY TRAFFIC

A PASSER-BY saw a man struggling with a piano half in and half out of a door.

"May I help?" said the passer-by politely.

"Oh, thanks," said the other.

Together they struggled for ten minutes; then the man gasped: "It's no good. We'll never get it out."

"Out!" said the passer-by. "I've been trying to get it in!"

DIG OUT THE MINERALS

Can you find the minerals hidden in these sentences?

I'm going to help with the gardening. Old Matthew says I may.

I can't make a cup of cocoa like Mother does.

Their only way is through the Pass.

The house is called Lea Dene.

Answer in column 5

BEDTIME TALE

BILLY CHANGES HIS MIND

JEAN had not had her roller-skates for very long and so at first she stayed mainly on the concrete path between the front gate and the garage. But after a while she grew more confident and went out on to the pavement.

Billy was just about to go into Paul's house when Jean came out of her gate, and as he himself was hoping for a pair of skates for Christmas he stopped to watch.

Very slowly Jean set off along the pavement, one hand on the fencing. Suddenly her feet went from under her and down she sat. Bonk!

Billy went across, chuckling loudly.

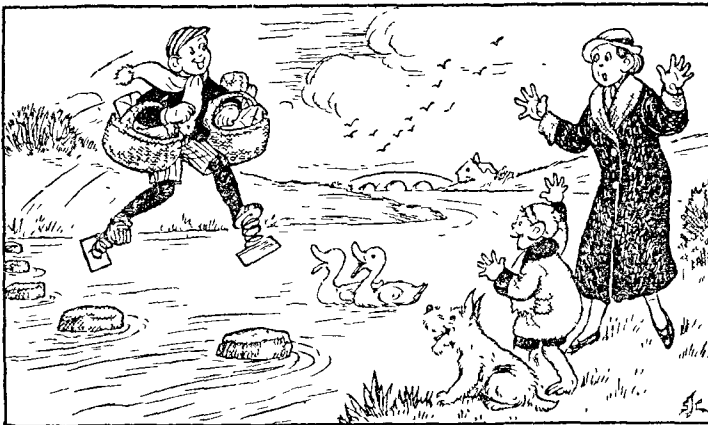
"It's all very well to laugh," said Jean, "but you couldn't do any better. Here. You have a try."

Billy sat down and put on the skates. Then he stood up—and sat down again. The third time he got up he did manage to grab the fence and stand still for a moment. But when he took off the skates ten minutes later he had fallen down at least a dozen times.

He looked rather thoughtful as he went indoors.

"Daddy," he said. "You know I asked Father Christmas for a pair of roller-skates. Do you think he could change them for an electric train?"

JACKO SPRINGS A SURPRISE



Jacko returned from town with the shopping and had to cross the river. "It's such a long way round by the bridge," thought our hero, "and the stepping-stones are very far apart." Mother, who had come to meet Jacko, thought so, too, and called out she would go back home and that Jacko was to follow. But he had other ideas. He fitted springs to his feet and was soon across. Mother had to agree that it was a fine piece of high-stepping.

THROUGH WITH IT

SAID a quaint little maiden of Crewe

Who came out of the sea looking blue:

"The sea's not polite,
For it gave me a fright
When I sat on a wave and went through."

OUR FRIEND

WE have a very special friend,
And often give him bread;
He is an ancient skewbald horse,
His name is simply Ned.
His big brown eyes are soft and kind,

His coat is brown and white,
And when he sees us coming
He will whicker with delight.
Sometimes we take him apples,
Then my small sister Rose
Climbs on the gate, so she can stroke

His soft, black, velvet nose.
He isn't valuable, of course,
Not like a thoroughbred;
But I feel sure there is no horse
As nice as dear old Ned.

ODD AND EVEN

LET the odd and even numbers in the left-hand column represent the letters of two words. These letters, when arranged in numerical order 1 to 6 make another word, the clue to which is in the right-hand column.

1 3 5—large cask	1 2 3 4 5 6 —
2 4 6—rodent	absent without leave
1 3 5—atmosphere	1 2 3 4 5 6 —
2 4 6—earnings	place for keeping bees
1 3 5—summit	1 2 3 4 5 6 —
2 4 6—regret	company of performers
1 3 5—the sun	1 2 3 4 5 6 —
2 4 6—deep hole	damaged
1 3 5—tree	1 2 3 4 5 6 —
2 4 6—beam	monastery

Answer below

ANSWER TO QUIZ CORNER

1. Boz
2. The "Vinegar Bible" is a rare edition of the Bible printed in 1717, so called because of a compositor's error in putting "vinegar" instead of "vineyard" in the parable of the vineyard. (Luke 20.)
3. There are eight. Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana.
4. 1836.
5. The adder or viper.
6. Helium.

BRAN TUB ANSWERS

Seek the Soccer club

Nottingham Forest

A royal puzzle

Victoria: 1837

Dig out the minerals

Gold, coal, iron, lead

Odd and even

Tun, rat, truant:

air, pay, apiary: top,

rie, troupe: sol,

pat, spout: fir, ray

trary

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

MARE	PASS
ALDER	ELL
PALL	NINE
STY	ENDOW
OTRY	M
SMARE	RAT
HERE	MODE
OCARE	JN
TEST	NEED

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